JUMP COMICS
【特別読切】
「やばいYATSURA」収録
●涙の別れ・辛巳式!の巻
宮下あきら
魁!!男塾
34

COME TO MY SITE
HTTP://NAMALAIN.WORDPRESS.COM/

CREDITS

RAWS: STRANGERATARU
TRANSLATION: STRANGERATARU
CLEAN: HENDRA
TYPESETTING: HENDRA

YOU'RE WELCOME TO UPLOAD THIS SCANLATION IN ANOTHER WEBSITE. BUT PLEASE WAIT 24 HOURS BEFORE YOU DO THAT. THANKS

JUMP COMICS

涙の別れ・卒業式!!の巻

34

さきがけ おとこじゅく

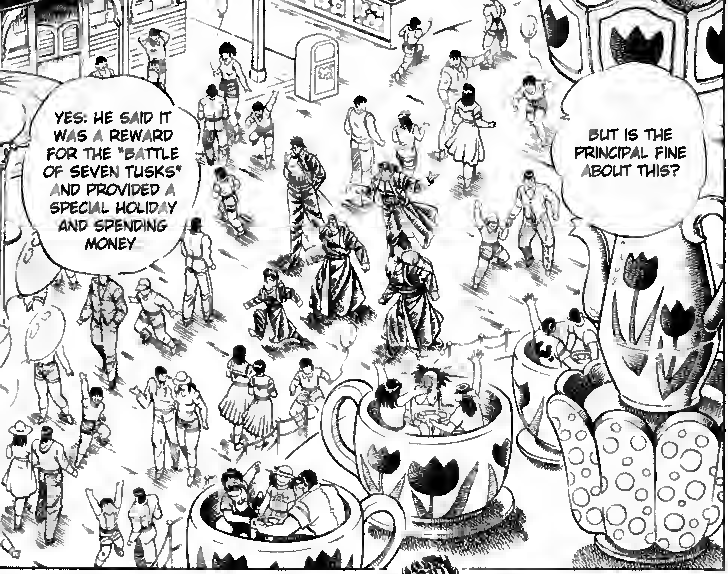
魁!!男塾

宮下あきら

魁!男塾
TOKYO
HESNEYLAND
西の男塾!!
の巻

THIS IS HESNEYLAND, THE GREATEST AMUSEMENT PARK OF THE EAST!!
TOKYO HESNEYLAND
WOO, THIS IS GREAT, WHERE ARE WE~~~~!!

CHP. 306: OTOKOJUKU OF THE WEST!!

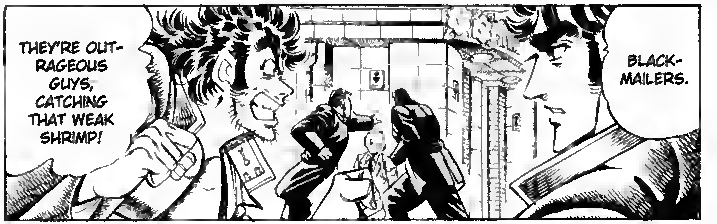

YES; HE SAID IT WAS A REWARD FOR THE "BATTLE OF SEVEN TUSKS" AND PROVIDED A SPECIAL HOLIDAY AND SPENDING MONEY.
BUT IS THE PRINCIPAL FINE ABOUT THIS?

YEAH, SO-THEN, WHAT WILL WE RIDE FIRST!!
AL---RIGHT, TODAY WE'LL HAVE FUN WITH ALL OUR MIGHT!!

WHAT ARE THEY!?
!?

N---!?
I OF COURSE AM FINE WITH THE ROLLER COASTER!!

Men's
HUH---!?
OR, DO YOU WANT TO MEET WITH A PAINFUL EXPERIENCE?
WE'LL BE FINE IF YOU LOAN US A BIT OF SPENDING MONEY.
WELL, WE'RE ASKING IT OF YOU, OLDER BROTHER.


THEY'RE OUTRAGEOUS GUYS, CATCHING THAT WEAK SHRIMP!
BLACKMAILERS.

YEAH ---!?
HOW ABOUT IT---!!

17
FU, WE CAN'T IGNORE THIS. LET'S GO, TORAMARU !!
YEAH, YOU'RE NOT COURAGEOUS IF YOU DON'T SEE JUSTICE---!!
YOU BRAT, YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO REALLY MEET WITH A PAINFUL EXPERIENCE--!!
UWACHI-CHI---!!
TH...THAT GUY DISAPPEARED ---!!
HUH ---!?
UH!!

HUH !!
GUGYA !!

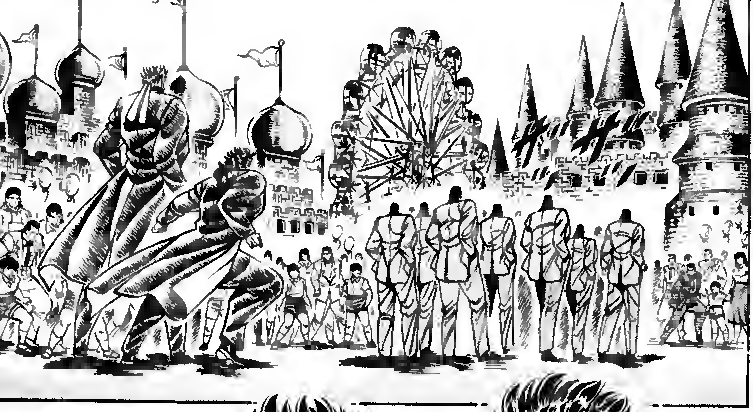
WH...WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
FU, NOT BAD.
YOU DID IT, YAMITAROU.
OSU!!
SE...SENPAI!!

DON'T CAUSE INSIGNIFICANT TROUBLE.
IT'S A TRIFLING MATTER PRIOR TO AN IMPORTANT ONE
OSU!!

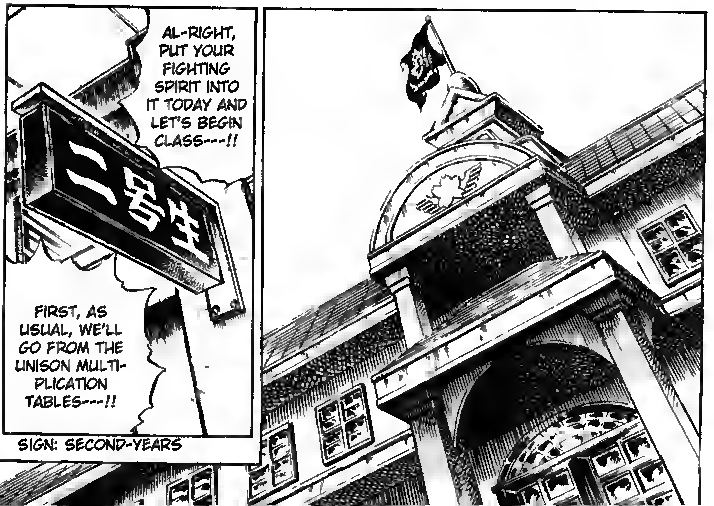
I...I'LL ROMP OVER HIM AND KILL HIM---!!
HE...HE'S THAT BRAT'S BOSS!!
TH...THIS IS BAD, TH...THE HOODLUM TOOK OUT A METALLIC OBJECT --!!
OSU !!
WE'RE LEAVING. IT'S TIME TO GO BACK TO THE LODGING HOUSE.

UO --!!
GYAGO !!
UH !!

FU, I GUESS THAT WAS UNNECESSARY ASSISTANCE.
NO, IT WAS A COMPLETELY GREAT ASSISTANCE.
THANKS.
FUFU, TOKYO IS A DANGEROUS PLACE



WHERE ARE THEY FROM---!?
THAT'S AN ODD LOT...
TOKYO BLACK

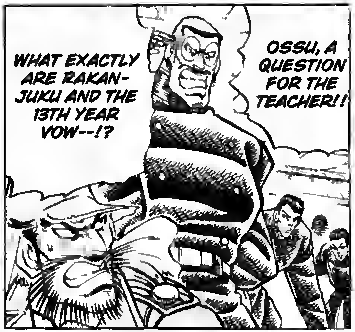

AL-RIGHT, PUT YOUR FIGHTING SPIRIT INTO IT TODAY AND LET'S BEGIN CLASS---!!
二学年
FIRST, AS USUAL, WE'LL GO FROM THE UNISON MULTI-PLICATION TABLES---!!
SIGN: SECOND-YEARS

1 AND 3 IS 3!!
1 AND 2 IS 2!!
1 AND 1 IS ONE!!
WHAT AM I...
1 AND 4 IS 4!!
YEAH, I WENT TO A GREAT PLACE TOO AND GOT REFRESHMENT AFTER A LONG TIME.
HEY, CAN'T YOU PUT IN MORE FIGHTING SPIRIT----!!
HEHHEHE, YESTERDAY WAS FUN.
IT'S THE PRINCI-PAL.
WHAT IS HE DOING STANDING IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL GATE!?
MOMO, GET UP AND LOOK OUTSIDE THE WINDOW.
N--!?

IT'S A ROLLS ROYCE!!
OH, A CAR HAS STOPPED.
……!?

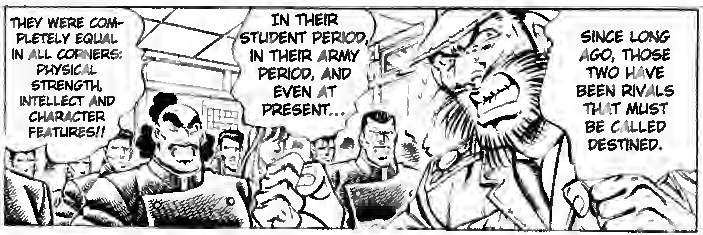
THE "FUUN RAKANJUKU" = "PRIVATE SCHOOL OF THE STATE ... BUDDHA". "RAKAN", ALSO KNOWN AS "ARAKAN", IS THE HIGHEST STATE OF ARHAM IN BUDDHISM, EVEN WITHIN JAPANESE BUDDHISM WHERE IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT AND ADAPTABLE ... INFLUENCED BY MANY OF THE CLASSIC CON... SPITE FUUN IN ... THEIR PARTS. IF EAST ASIA, "FUUN" ALSO HA... A MEANING OF "WIND AND CLOUDS". OH AND HE DOES IT THE SAME WAY AS EDAJIMA, EVEN WITH THE "PE ANU" WORK... YOKU, I GUESS WITH LITTLE THIS LEFT. I SHOULD EXPLAIN HOWEVER, I RA... IT I NEVER HAD AN FIRST ... THE TRANSLATION BUT IT'S BASICALLY AN EMPATHETIC WORK IN JAPANESE... BUT ... IN ENGLISH. I KNOW THE "PE ANU" IS PART OF HOW EDAJIMA SAYS HIS CATCHPHRASE, BUT HONESTLY IT REALLY DIDN'T FEEL LIKE IT WORKED IN ENGLISH

FUFU, YOU'VE GOTTEN OLD, EDAJIMA; THAT'S MAGNIFI-CENT BALDNESS.
NUFU, CUT THAT OUT: YOU'VE LOOSELY GOTTEN EVEN FATTER!!


OSSU, A QUESTION FOR THE TEACHER!!
WHAT EXACTLY ARE RAKAN-JUKU AND THE 13TH YEAR VOW--!?

Y...YOU WANT TO HEAR!!
I...IN THAT CASE, I...I...I'LL TELL YOU!!

A... ANOTHER OTOKO-JUKU...!!
TO THE EAST IS OTOKO-JUKU; TO THE WEST IS FUUN RAKAN-JUKU!!
THERE ARE TWO PRIVATE SCHOOLS THAT TRAIN TRUE JAPANESE BOYS IN JAPAN!!
YOU CAN SAY THAT RAKAN-JUKU IS ANOTHER OTOKO-JUKU---!!


THEY WERE COMPLETELY EQUAL IN ALL CORNERS: PHYSICAL STRENGTH, INTELLECT AND CHARACTER FEATURES!!
IN THEIR STUDENT PERIOD, IN THEIR ARMY PERIOD, AND EVEN AT PRESENT...
SINCE LONG AGO, THOSE TWO HAVE BEEN RIVALS THAT MUST BE CALLED DESTINED.

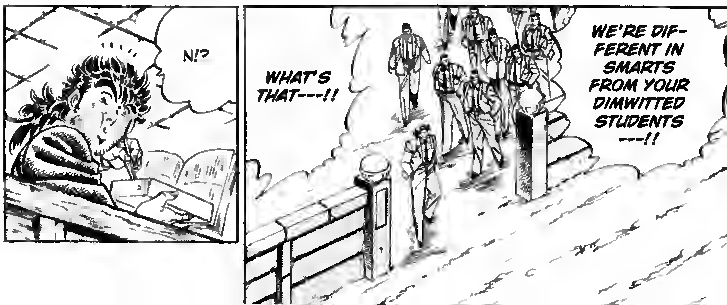
TN: "TEIDAI" REFERS TO THE FORMER NAME OF TOKYO UNIVERSITY: TEIKOKU DAIGAKU, THE "IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY"

THERE IS A STORY THAT WHEN THEY GRADUATED FROM TEIDAI (AT PRESENT TOKYO UNIVERSITY), EVEN THEIR GOLD POCKET WATCH THAT IS AWARDED TO THE MOST EXCELLENT PERSON IN RESULTS WAS HANDED OUT IN TWO PIECES!!

BOTH OF THEM EMBRACED THEIR AMBITION AND, WHEN THEY SEPARATED TO EAST AND WEST, THEY SAID THIS!!
WHAT WOULD REVIVE JAPAN AND MAKE IT GROW FROM THEN ON WAS THE POWER OF YOUNG MEN .....!!
AND THEN, OUR PRINCIPAL REACHED THE END OF THE WAR AS A REAR-ADMIRAL OF THE NAVY AND KUMADA AS A MAJOR-GENERAL OF THE ARMY AND WHEN THEY RETURNED FROM THE FRONT TO JAPAN WHICH HAD ENTIRELY CHANGED INTO A BURNT FIELD PLAIN, BOTH OF THEM DECIDED IN THEIR HEARTS!!
DUE TO THIS, THEY WOULD BECOME EDUCATIONALISTS AND TRAIN THESE YOUNG MEN!!
AT THAT MOMENT, WE'LL HAVE THE TRUE CONCLUSION OF OUR RIVALRY!!
YEAH, VERY GOOD!!
WE'LL SHOW OUR RESULTS AS EDUCATIONALISTS IN WHICH OF US HAS RAISED OUR YOUNG MEN!!
WE'LL MEET AGAIN 13 YEARS FROM NOW!! EDAJIMA!!

SO...SOMEHOW I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT BUT I HAVE A VIOLENTLY BAD PREMONI-TION.....!!
FINALLY, THE DAY HAS COME---!!
TH..THE 13TH YEAR WAS TODAY---!!

FUFU, COME.
WHAT'S WRONG? IS THIS YOUR RESULTS IN YOUR 13TH YEAR!?


N!?
WHAT'S THAT---!!
WE'RE DIF-FERENT IN SMARTS FROM YOUR DIMWITTED STUDENTS ---!!

WH... WHAT ---!!
TH... THEY'RE FROM YES-TERDAY ---!!

TN:

ALRIGHT, WHY AM I JUST MORE INTRIGUED SEEING THE POTENTIAL OF RAKANJUKU THAN MOST OF WHAT WE'VE SEEN IN THE SEVEN TUSKS FIGHT? I MEAN, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE PROBABLY THE AMERICANS ARC WHERE WE MET J (MAYBE EVEN FURTHER BACK), THE MAIN OPPONENTS FOR OTOKOJUKU ISN'T TIED TO SOME ELITE FORCE TRYING TO CONQUER THEM OR SOME BIZARRO TOURNAMENT OR A BUNCH OF HIRED GUNS. BUT ACTUAL STUDENTS AKIN TO THEMSELVES!

I LIKE THE IDEA BEING PRESENTED HERE OF ANOTHER SCHOOL THAT TRAINS MANLY MEN LEAD BY A RIVAL OF EDAJIMA NOT ON THE BATTLEGROUND (LIKE TOUDOU WAS) BUT IN EVERY AND ALL MANNERS AS WE'VE SEEN SO FAR WITH KUMADA. THE ONLY REAL COMPLAINT I HAVE ABOUT THE CHAPTER. WHY WAS THE TIME-LIMIT MADE 13 YEARS ANYWAY? WITH THE HISTORY THAT EDAJIMA HAS (AND PRESUMABLY KUMADA), WE KNOW THEY FOUGHT IN THE WAR, DID A LOT OF TRAINING AND ESSENTIALLY WERE THE PINNACLE OF PRE-WWII MEN. SO. WHEN EXACTLY DID THAT WHOLE ASPECT OF "EDAJIMA AND KUMADA GO INTO EDUCATION" ACTUALLY OCCUR? IT MADE IT SEEM LIKE IT TOOK PLACE JUST AFTER WWII IN 1945, BUT THEN THAT WOULD END UP MAKING IT 1958 WHEN THIS TOOK PLACE. WHICH IS UTTERLY WRONG SINCE THIS IS OBVIOUSLY MODERN TIMES.

SO THEN...DID EDAJIMA AND KUMADA JUST LIVE LIFE AND CONTINUED TRAINING BEFORE THEN? AND EVEN SO, WHEN DOES THE TIMELINE FOR WHEN THEY MADE THE PROMISE START? ON ONE HAND, WE REMEMBER THE SERIES STARTED AND TOOK PLACE FOR A PERIOD AROUND 1985-6-7, MEANING THAT EDAJIMA DIDN'T GET INTO EDUCATION UNTIL 1972-3-4. BUT THEN, WOULD HE HAVE INSTANTLY BECOME PRINCIPAL OF OTOKOJUKU OR WOULD HAVE HAVE ENDED UP A TEACHER FIRST? AND IF EDAJIMA DIDN'T GET INTO EDUCATION UNTIL 13 YEARS AGO...THEN WHAT DID HE DO AFTER THE WAR UNTIL HE DECIDED TO GET BACK INTO "BRINGING PRE-WAR EDUCATION BACK TO MAKE MEN"? HECK, THEN THERE'S EVEN THE CONSIDERATION THAT IT'S JUST 13 YEARS FROM THE PRESENT TIME...AND IF THAT HAPPENED, THEN THE CHAPTER IS IN 1991 AND THUS 13 YEARS AGO WAS 1978!

HEH...WELL, ASIDE FROM FIGURING OUT THE HISTORY OF THE PRINCIPAL OF OTOKOJUKU, IT WAS STILL A GREAT CHAPTER FILLED WITH POTENTIAL, WHICH I HOPE DELIVERS WITH THE SERIES END COUNTING DOWN.

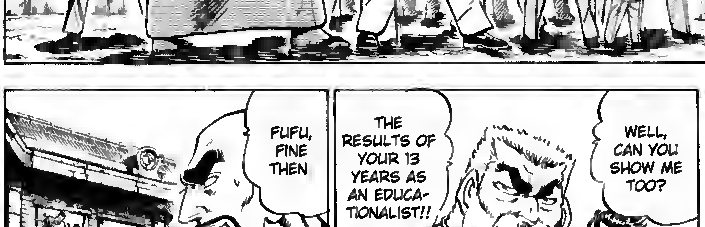
五魂遷の勝負!!

CHP. 307: THE FIVE-KONSEN MATCH!!

IT SEEMS LIKE THEY ARE.
WELL,

TH...THEY'RE THE GUYS WE MET AT THE AMUSEMENT PARK ON OUR BREAK YESTERDAY----!!
I...LOOK MO...MOMO --!!

FUFU. EDAJIMA, THESE ARE THE STUDENTS OF FUUN RAKAN-JUKU THAT I SUPERVISE OVER.


FUFU, FINE THEN
THE RESULTS OF YOUR 13 YEARS AS AN EDUCATIONALIST!!
WELL, CAN YOU SHOW ME TOO?

IF...IF WE'RE GIVEN AN ORDER BY THE PRINCIPAL, THEN WE CAN ONLY GO.
HE...HE'S CALLING FOR US...!!
TH...THIS IS SOME VIOLENTLY BAD PREMONITION..!!

GYAA
WE'RE GIVING A WELCOME TO THESE COUNTRY BUMPKINS ----!!
ALL OF YOU--!! COME OUT--!!

THESE ARE THE STUDENTS OF MY OTOKO-JUKU!!
FUFU, HOW'S THIS KUMADA!!
TH...THESE ARE NOW NOSTALGICALLY STALWART DELINQUENTS OF LONG AGO; ISN'T THIS THE OUTLINE OF PURVEYORS TO THE GOVERNMENT----!!
WH... WHAT ----!!

IN COMPARISON, THESE ARE OUR BLAZERS AND NECKTIES!!
THEY TOO ARE ITALIAN-MADE GOODS!!
WE SHOULD PITY WHAT IS JUST POSSESSED BY THAT OLD-MINDED PRINCIPAL----!!
WAHHAHA, THEY STILL HAVE THESE OLD-FASHION, FILTHY UNIFORMS ----!!

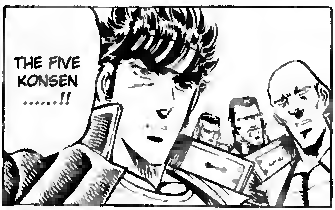
SHOULDN'T WE QUICKLY EXPLAIN THE METHOD OF MATCH FROM HERE!!
ARE YOU GOING TO BABBLE ON JOKING FOREVER, KUMADA?

IT, . IT'S A BAD PREMONITION OF ANOTHER STAGE. .!!
A MATCH ...!?
YOU'RE A MAN WHO'S AS SHORT-TEMPERED AS EVER.
FU, THAT'S FINE

AL-RIGHT, SO THEN STUDENTS OF BOTH SCHOOLS!! YOU SHOULD LISTEN WITH YOUR HEARTS TOGETHER!!
FROM HERE, RAKANJUKU AND OTOKOJUKU WILL BE HOLDING THE FIVE-KONSEN MATCH, WHICH SHOULD DECIDE BY THE TWO OF US!!

TN: THE "FIVE-KONSEN" OR "GOKONSEN" = "FIVE SOUL-MOVERS"

THESE ARE THE FIVE POWERS THAT MUST BE COMBINED BY THOSE WHO ARE ENOUGH TO BE TRUE JAPANESE YOUTH!!
THE FIVE KONSEN ARE COURAGE, INTELLIGENCE, PHYSICAL STRENGTH, PRESENCE AND TEAM SPIRIT.

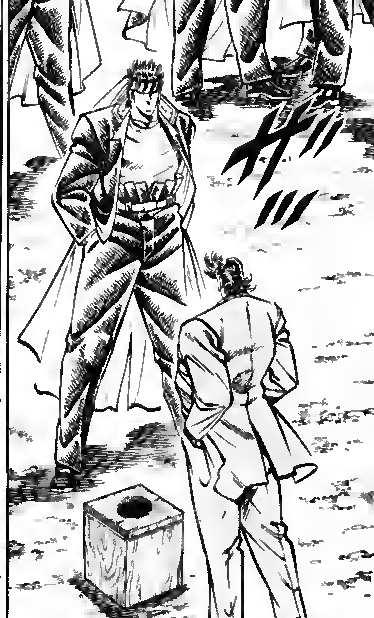


TN: MOST OF THE FIVE KONSEN MAKE SENSE ON THEIR OWN IN ENGLISH OR JAPANESE, BUT THERE ARE TWO THAT DON'T. "WEIGHT" IS AN INCOMPLETE EXPLANATION. "WRIGHT" IS IN JAPANESE "KANAME", WHICH IS A UNIT OF WEIGHT IN JAPAN APPROXIMATELY 3.75KG. WHILE IT IS A "PHYSICAL WRIGHT," IT HAS AN ALTERNATE READING WE'RE USING FOR "PRESENCE". IN THE OTHER HAND, "TEAM SPIRIT" IS IN JAPANESE "KANKETSUSHIN" WHICH IS THE APPROXIMATE TRANSLATION BUT CAN ALSO BE READ AS "SPIRIT IN BLOOD."

WITHIN THIS BOX IS INSERTED CARDS WHICH HAS WRITTEN THE FIVE EVENTS.
THAT IS, THESE FIVE POWERS WILL EACH BE COMPETED IN FIVE EVENTS!!
THE MATCH WILL HAVE A WINNER WITH THE ONE WHO HAS THREE VICTORIES FIRST!!
BUT THEN, THE COMPLETE VICTORY OF OUR RAKANJUKU IS SEEN EVEN WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING.
HOW'S THAT, EDAJIMA. WILL YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT THIS!?
FUFFU FU
FUF FUFU
I'M PICTURING YOUR CRYING FACE!!
EXCELLENT.

GAHAH HAHA ----!!
GUWA HHAHA ----!!
OSSU.
BRING OUT EACH OF YOUR SELF-INTRODUCTIONS AND SELECT THE FIRST EVENT---!!
ALRIGHT, BOTH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FRONT!!

OTOKO-JUKU. TSURUGI MOMO-TAROU.



WE MET IN THAT UNUSUAL PLACE YESTER-DAY.
FUUN RAKAN-JUKU: IJUUIN KYOUSUKE.

FU, I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS A CON-NECTION OF OUR PRINCI-PALS
WE'VE WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT FOR A LONG TIME

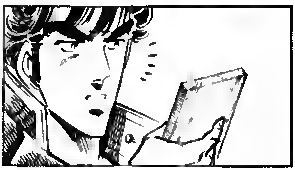
IF RAKAN-JUKU IS IN THE WEST, THEN OTOKO-JUKU IS IN THE EAST .....!!
I'VE HEARD RUMORS OF ALL OF YOU.

WE WON'T REFUSE ANY CHALLENGE. .!! THAT'S THE WAY WE DO THINGS!!
YEAH, WE'LL BE DEVOTING OUR FULL POWER FROM THE START!!

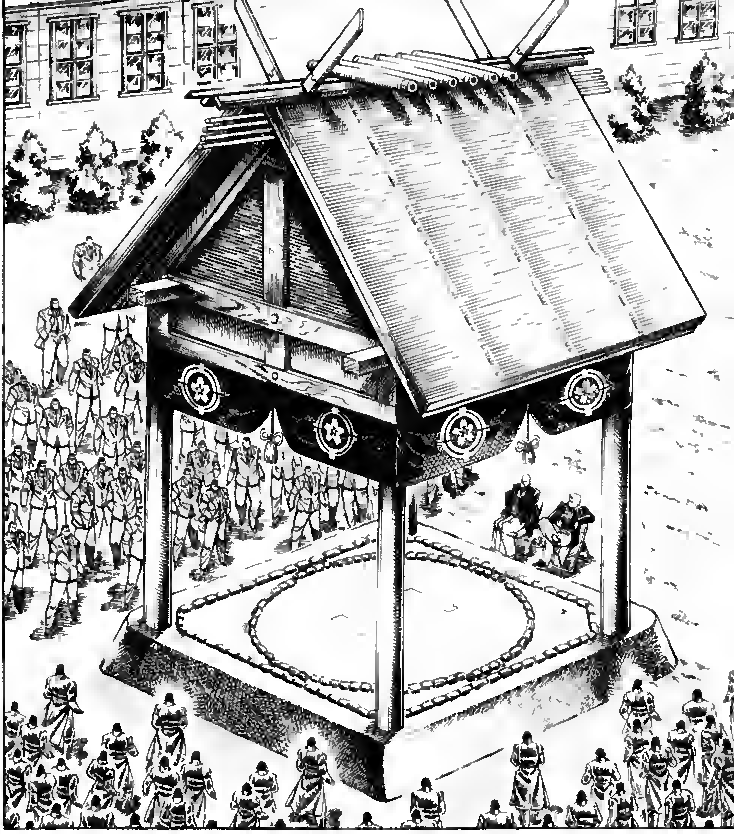
THE ANSWER WILL EMERGE NOW!!
WILL IT BE RAKANJUKU OF THE WEST OR OTOKOJUKU OF THE EAST...!!

COURAGE...!! SUMO..!!
胆力
相撲

I'LL BE CHOOSING THIS



IT'S... A PREMONITION OF ANOTHER STAGE...
SUMO...

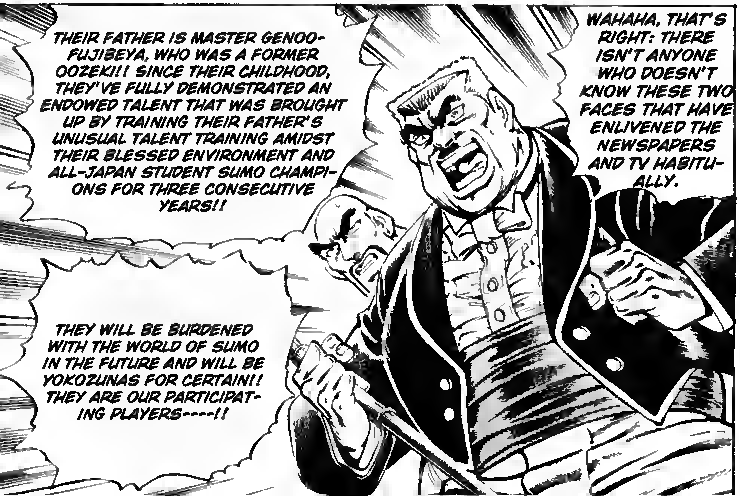


IT'S OVERDOING FOR THIS POOR SCHOOL.
FUFU. ISN'T THIS QUITE AN ARENA?

OUR SCHOOL GAINS POWER IN PARTICULAR WITH LEGITIMATE STUDY IN IT AND IT'S OUR GREATEST PRIDE!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!! SUMO IS THE NATIONAL SPORT OF JAPAN , IT'S A MATCH OF STOPPING AN OPPONENT'S CHARGE AND STRIKING THEM DOWN, PLAIN AND SIMPLE SO YOU SAY, THIS SHOULD BE THE ORIGIN OF SPORTS ..!!
LOOK AT OUR TEAM AND BE AFRAID!!
FUFU, ARE YOU FINE SAYING THAT!!
GET OUT HERE!! HANADA BROTHERS !!
HANADA BROTHERS .....!?

OSSHI!!
NUU!! YOU'RE ---!!

TH...THOSE TWO ARE RAKANJUKU STUDENTS---!!
WH...WHAT ---!! THE HANADA BROTHERS ---!!


THEIR FATHER IS MASTER GENOO-FUJIBEYA, WHO WAS A FORMER OOZEKI!! SINCE THEIR CHILDHOOD, THEY'VE FULLY DEMONSTRATED AN ENDOWED TALENT THAT WAS BROUGHT UP BY TRAINING THEIR FATHER'S UNUSUAL TALENT TRAINING AMIDST THEIR BLESSED ENVIRONMENT AND ALL-JAPAN STUDENT SUMO CHAMPI-ONS FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS!!
WAHAHA, THAT'S RIGHT: THERE ISN'T ANYONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW THESE TWO FACES THAT HAVE ENLIVENED THE NEWSPAPERS AND TV HABITU-ALLY.
THEY WILL BE BURDENED WITH THE WORLD OF SUMO IN THE FUTURE AND WILL BE YOKOZUNAS FOR CERTAIN!! THEY ARE OUR PARTICIPAT-ING PLAYERS----!!

AL-RIGHT, SO THEN HOW ABOUT WE CATCH A GLIMPSE AT PART OF YOUR POWERS AS PRE-MATCH ENTERTAINMENT!!
THIS MATCH ISN'T A CRAWLING BRAWL!! IT'S A MATCH THAT'S COMPLEXLY SPORTS!!
UWAHHAHA, HOW'S THAT EDJAIMA!? YOU HAVEN'T RELEASED EVEN A VOICE SHOWING MASSIVE SURPRISE---!!
OSSHI!!
BECAUSE THERE ISN'T A SPORT WHERE YOU CAN BRING OUT AMATEURS AND EXPERTS AS SUMO!!

WH...WHAT EXACTLY ARE THOSE TWO GOING TO DO!?

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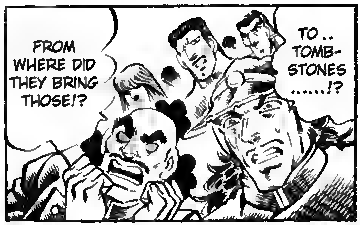
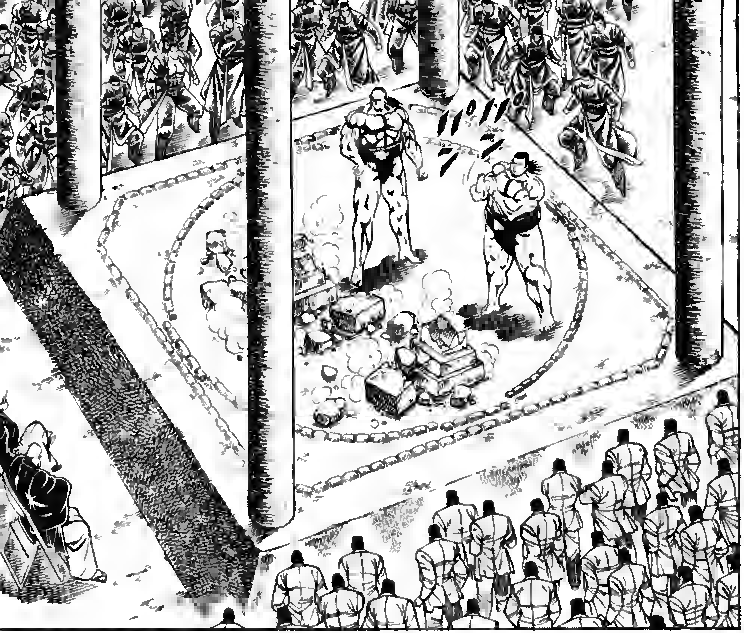

FROM WHERE DID THEY BRING THOSE!?
TO.. TOMB-STONES .....!?

NUN!!
OSSHAA ---!!



AWAWA, TH... THAT'S!!

THE TWO PARTICIPATING PLAYERS THAT WILL BE BROUGHT TO A MISERABLE END LIKE THOSE TOMBSTONES!!
WELL, BRING OUT YOURS!!

THOSE ARE THE VICEGRIP CHOKE AND DEMON TEPPOU, THE SPECIAL TECHNIQUES OF THE HANADA BROTHERS THAT BEAT DOZENS OF OPPONENTS IN THE PAST!!
WAHHAHA, DID YOU SEE EDAJIMA!!

PUT ON YOUR MAWASHI ----!!
TORAMARU AND HIDEMARO!!
NUU!!
!!
U...US---!!
EH---!!

TN:

YEAH...I'M A BIT SURPRISED BY THAT CLIMAX TOO. I MEAN, TORAMARU I SORT OF GET: HE EVEN FOUGHT A SUMO WRESTLER WAY BACK IN THE DAIBUKAI (YEAH IT WASN'T ONE OF THE BEST MATCHES BUT IT WAS SUMO .SORT OF) . BUT HIDEMARO!? SURE EDAJIMA PROBABLY HAS A REASON WHY BUT...THAT'S ANOTHER CHAPTER.

I REALLY SEEM TO APPRECIATE AND LIKE THE DIRECTION OF THIS VOLUME SO FAR MOSTLY BECAUSE THE WAY IT IS BEING PRESENTED JUST SEEMS TO GET AT THE WHOLE FEEL OF WHAT OTOKOJUKU IS ABOUT A BIT MORE THAN SOME OF THE RECENT BATTLE ARCS HAVE BEEN. AS MUCH AS EDAJIMA WANTED OTOKOJUKU TO PROVE ITSELF IN COMBAT, HE IS ULTIMATELY A PRINCIPAL AND ALL THINGS HE DOES ARE FOR THE GLORY OF OTOKOJUKU, NOT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS. HECK, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THESE LAST COUPLE OF CHAPTERS SEEM TO SHOW WHY THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC REALLY WAS AS WEAK AS IT WAS: EVEN THOUGH EDAJIMA WAS ABDUCTED FOR IT TO OCCUR, IT WAS ALL UNDER THE CONTROL OF SOMEONE ELSE AND BARELY FOR EDAJIMA OR THE SCHOOL.

NOW COMPARE THAT TO ALL THE PREVIOUS ARCS AND TO THIS BATTLE WITH RAKAN-JUKU: THEY WERE ALL ABOUT GRADE PRIDE, SCHOOL PRIDE, AND EDAJIMA PRIDE. AND THAT'S OTOKOJUKU'S ULTIMATE GOAL. IF YOU AREN'T A MAN, THEN YOU AREN'T WORTHY TO WORK FOR EDAJIMA HEIHACHI ..OR KUMADA BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY. REGARDLESS, IT IS SORT OF NICE THAT SOMEHOW WE ARE GETTING ALL SORTS OF STRANGE BATTLES IN THE KONSEN THAT AREN'T JUST "ONE-ON-ONE BRAWLS"...THOUGH WITH SUMO, THAT WILL SORT OF BE WHAT IT'S ABOUT FOR THE MOMENT. JUST HOPE EDAJIMA KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING WITH THESE TWO GENIUS WRESTLERS ENTERING AGAIN...YEAH, TORAMARU AND HIDEMARO.

バーン
UWAHHAHA! HOW'S THAT? THIS IS THE PROCESSIONAL ENTRANCE OF TORAMARU-ZEKI----!!
UUUH, WH. .WHY IS IT ME...!!
必殺!万力絞め!!の巻

HAVING A MATCH IN SUMO WITH THEIR OPPONENTS THE HANADA BROTHERS!!
FUFU, THEY'RE HELPLESS GUYS, IJUUIN.

YE. .YEAH. EVEN THOUGH IT'S NATURAL WITH TORAMARU, WHOSE SPECIALTY IS SUMO, BOASTING HIMSELF AS THE STRONGEST OF OTOKOJUKU
WH... WHY DID THE PRINCIPAL CHOOSE HIDEMARO?
IS .IS HE THINKING OF SOMETHING----!?

必殺！万力絞め!!の巻

CHP. 308: CERTAIN-KILL! VICEGRIP CHOKE!!

THIS MATCH IS A SURVIVAL MATCH!! THE ONE WHO DEFEATS TWO FIRST WILL BE THE VICTOR ---!!
WILL THE ADVANCE GUARD OTO-KOJUKU ENTER INTO THE ARENA!!

BUT, EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE OF WINNING, WHY YOU SEND OUT THAT SHRIMP ----!!
WAHHAHA. HOWEVER, OTO-KOJUKU VERY MUCH SEEMS TO HAVE A SHORTAGE OF TALENTED MEN, EDAJIMA!!

I'LL DEFEAT BOTH OF THEM TOGETHER AND IT WON'T TURN TO YOU!!
HEH, BE CALM HIDEMARO
DE DEFEAT THEM TORA-MARU

FU, BIG BROTHER, DON'T FORGET THAT YOUR OPPONENT IS ANYTHING BUT AN AMATEUR
FUFU, SO THEN WE'LL GO FROM ME.

BECAUSE IF YOU LOSE, THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING LEFT FOR THIS MATCH AT ANY RATE----!!
YOU CAN DO THIS, TORAMARU! ----!!
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE THE HANADA BROTHERS OR WHATEVER, BUT I WAS BORN TO NOT LOSE IN SUMO TO THIS GUY!!
HEH, LEAVE THIS TO ME!!

HO!!
FUFU, I'LL BE SYMPATHETIC
YE.. YEAH!!
WH...WHAT AN AMAZING STOMP. I....LOOK...!!
TO...TORA-MARU'S BODY FLOATED IN AIR FOR A MOMENT...!!

WELL, YOU CAN COME AT ME FROM ANYWHERE!!
!!
EVEN IF I WIN AGAINST YOU, I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO BOAST.
CAN'T I DO IT WITH A HANDICAP LIKE THIS?
Y... YOU~~!!
YOU'VE TURNED ONE OF YOUR ARMS TO YOUR BEHIND~~~!!
WH...WHAT'S WITH YOUR PRETENSION~~~!!

AS EXPECTED OF A STAR ACTOR WHO POSSESSED THIS WITH BIRTH!! THAT'S PLENTY FOR A STAR FOR NOW!!
UWAHHAHA, THAT'S RIGHT ELDER HANADA!! HANDLE THAT GUY WITH ONE ARM!!
HEY, EDAJIMA, DON'T YOU THINK THAT!!
IF YOU LOSE, YOU WON'T BE FORGIVEN EVEN IF YOU RIP YOUR STOMACH OPEN!!
NUU; TO...TORAMARU, KNOCK DOWN THAT CONCEITED GUY!!
LE...LET'S GO, YOU GUY!!
O... OSSU!!
SOR YAA!!

HAGA !!
FUFUFU: THIS MANY SPECTATORS WILL BE UNSATISFIED IN A MATCH THIS SIMPLE.
OTTO.
KU!!
OOOH!!

WELL, I'LL ENDURE YOUR ATTACKS.
YOU SHOULD COME WITH ALL OF YOUR POWER!!
Y... YOU'RE NOISY ----!!
HEY, PUT IN MUCH MORE POWER.
KU!! I...CAN'T MOVE.
NUAA ---!!

*THE ELDER HANADA USES AN EXPRESSION HERE OF "MUNE WO KASU", WHICH IS A SPECIFIC TERM FOR AN ELDER SUMO WRESTLER OPENING HIMSELF UP TO A JUNIOR TO ATTACK HIM IN ORDER TO GIVE HIM PRACTICE.

HO...HOWEVER I THINK OF THIS, THIS OPPONENT REALLY IS TOO STRONG
YES AT ANY RATE HE IS THE ONE WHO WILL CERTAINLY BE A YOKOZUNA IN THE FUTURE AND STANDING WITH THE BURDEN OF THE WORLD OF SUMO.
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG, WHAT'S WRONG
UOO ---!!
IT...IT'S LIKE HE ISN'T MOVING, LIKE HE'S PLANTED ROOTS WITH HIS FEET---!!

FIGHTING SPIRIT--!! CAN'T YOU PUT IN FIGHTING SPIRIT, TORAMARU---!!
UWAHHAHA, IT'S LIKE SUMO OF AN ADULT AND A CHILD!!

EVEN IF YOU EXPERIENCE SOME OF THE SKILL THAT IS DEEP IN THE PATH OF SUMO, THIS IS EVIDENTLY THE DIFFERENCE OF AN EXPERT AND A NOVICE
FUFU, DO YOU UNDERSTAND A BIT!?

HEHE. WH... WHY ARE YOU LETTING OUT THAT GREAT THING?
DON'T YOU KNOW THAT FRIZZY HAIR IS JUTTING OUT FROM THE SPACE OF YOUR FUTON?
WH... WHAT?
YOU IDIOT, I'VE CALIGHT YOU--!!
OOH, IT'S TORAMARU'S EXTERNAL-ARM THROW (UWATENAGE) ---!!

NUGU !!

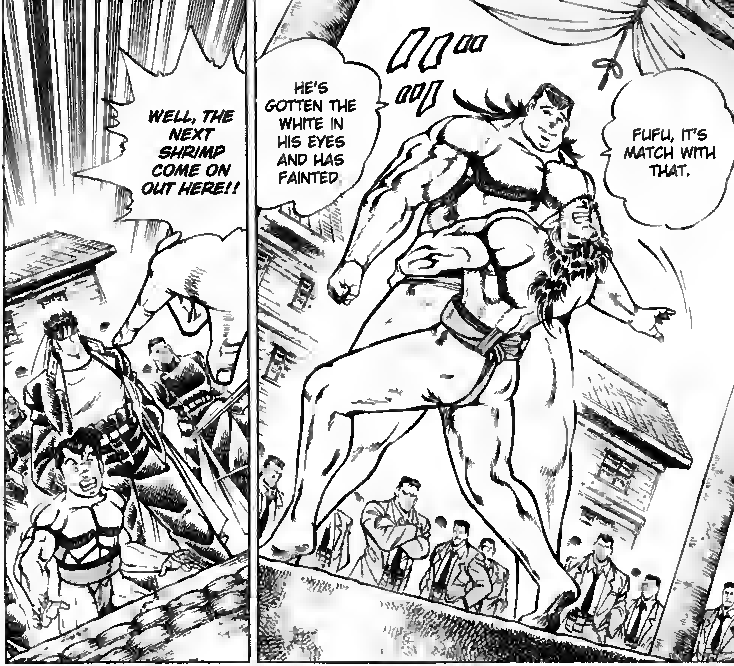
HA!!

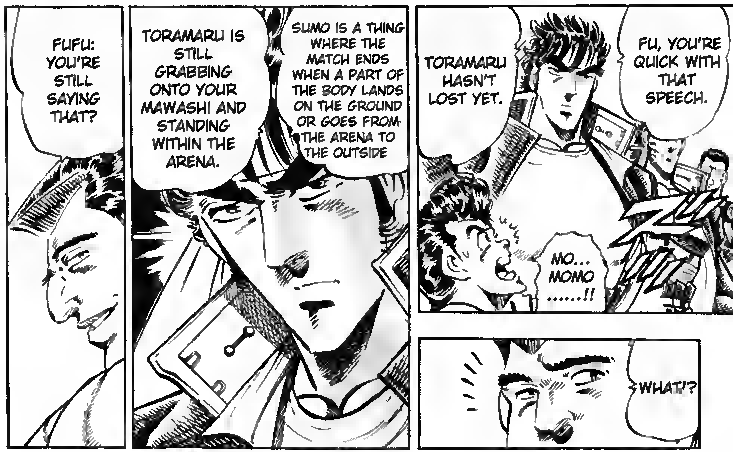
WITH THAT, YOU'LL COMPLETELY RUIN HIS HONOR ---!!
WAHHAHA, YOU'VE BROUGHT IT OUT TORAMARU !!
HEHHEHE, WHAT'S WITH THAT HAND?
CAN'T YOU WIN WITH ONE ARM AGAINST AN OPPONENT THAT'S AN AMATEUR LIKE ME?

WHAT'S THAT!!
EDAJIMA, YOU WILL COME TO LOSE ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS.
THAT JOKING BEHAVIOR!! HE'S A FOOLISH MAN HE'S SERIOUSLY ANGERED ELDER HANADA.
CERTAIN-KILL VICEGRIP CHOKE---!!
I...I MUST CLEAR MY HUMILIATION----!!
UGA!!
N!?

THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM PRO-WRESTLING OR JUDO: THERE IS NO GIVE-UP.
I'LL BE BREAKING YOUR SPINE WITH THIS.
UGUGU... LE...LET GO OF ME YOU---!!
HOW'S THE FEELING !?
GUOO!!
DORY AAAA ---!!
TH...THAT'S THE TECHNIQUE WITH THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER TO SMASH EVEN TOMBSTONES WE SAW BEFORE THE MATCH---!!
TH...THIS IS BAD, TO...TORAMARU'S SPINE IS GIVING AN EERIE SOUND--!!

GUG
YA!!
HE'S GETTING WHAT HE DESERVE
TO... TORA MARU ---!!

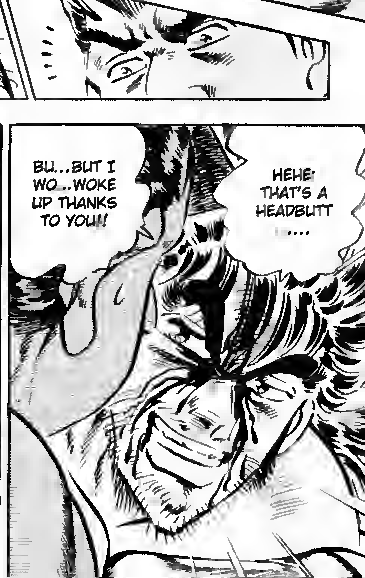

WELL, THE NEXT SHRIMP COME ON OUT HERE!!
HE'S GOTTEN THE WHITE IN HIS EYES AND HAS FAINTED.
FUFU, IT'S MATCH WITH THAT.


FUFU: YOU'RE STILL SAYING THAT?
TORAMARU IS STILL GRABBING ONTO YOUR MAWASHI AND STANDING WITHIN THE ARENA.
SUMO IS A THING WHERE THE MATCH ENDS WHEN A PART OF THE BODY LANDS ON THE GROUND OR GOES FROM THE ARENA TO THE OUTSIDE
TORAMARU HASN'T LOST YET.
FU, YOU'RE QUICK WITH THAT SPEECH.
NO... MOMO .....!!
WHAT!?

EVEN IF HE'S LOST CONSCIOUSNESS, TORAMARU'S SOUL IS STILL FIGHTING!!
FU, YOU'RE WRONG. HE ISN'T IN RIGOR.
BECAUSE OF THAT, I SHOULD LET HIS ARMS GO AND RELEASE AND THROW HIM TO OUTSIDE THE ARENA!!
HIS BODY HAS RIGORED AND HE ISN'T LETTING GO OF THE MAWASHI WITH THE SHOCK OF HIS SPINE BREAKING.
THAT IS THE GUTS OF AN OTOKOJUKU MATCH!!
MORE THAN DEATH, YOU DON'T STOP ATTACKING!!
HE'S AN OBSTINATE MAN, LIKE A SNAPPING TURTLE!!
EVEN IF HE SEEMS TO BE LETTING GO, HE ISN'T COMPLETELY LETTING GO.
WHAT IS HE~~~!!

KORYAA, CAN'T YOU ACT PROPERLY ---!!

HUH!?
NOW, TORA MARU ---!!


BU...BUT I WO...WOKE UP THANKS TO YOU!!
HEHE THAT'S A HEADBUTT ....

UO---!! REMEMBER THIS ----!!
TH...THIS IS THE POTENTIAL OF OTOKOJUKU'S TORAMARU RYUUJI---!!
GUGYA !!

TN:

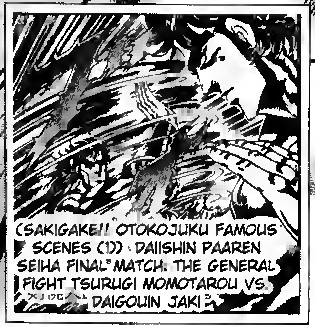
I KNOW HOW THIS SERIES IS A LOT OF THE TIME, BUT AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO GETS SORT OF SICK OF MOMENTS WHERE THE RIVAL/ADVERSARY UNDERESTIMATES THE OPPONENT AND PUTS UP A HANDICAP THAT ULTIMATELY LEADS TO THEIR DOWNFALL? HECK, WITH HOW THE MATCH STARTED, THE ELDER HANADA COULD HAVE DEFEATED TORAMARU EASILY IF HE DIDN'T DECIDE TO "HAVE FUN" WITH IT.

IN A WAY, IT SORT OF SHOWS "ARROGANCE BEFORE FALL" LIKE A LOT OF VILLAINS IN THIS SERIES HAS DONE, BUT I JUST GET SICK OF IT WHEN IT JUST GETS OVERDONE LIKE THIS SERIES TENDS TO DO. (PROBABLY ONE OF THE WEAKER ASPECTS) REGARDLESS, I DID LIKE SOME OF THE CONCEPT OF SUMO WRESTLING COMING INTO PLAY WITH THIS CHAPTER, PARTICULARLY TORAMARU'S GUTS HOLDING HIM ON UNTIL HE WAS "REAWOKEN" BY THE ELDER HANADA LEADING TO HIS DEFEAT...BUT I JUST FEEL LIKE TORAMARU, YET AGAIN, WAS CHEATED OUT OF A VICTORY HE COULD HAVE EARNED HIMSELF... AS IS THE CASE WITH MOST OF HIS FIGHTS IN THE SERIES. (OUTSIDE THE FEW GOOD ONES HE ACTUALLY EARNS)

塾長への信義!!の巻
FU, THAT'S A SERIOUSLY UNEXPECTED RESULT.
IT'S...A GREAT COME-FROM-BEHIND VICTORY OF GUTS---!!
HE...HE DID IT----!! AMAZING TORAMARU ---!!

TO... TORA MARU ---!!
HEHHEHE, AN...ANY QUES-TIONS...
THAT'S... NATURAL!! IT'S BECAUSE HIS SPINE WAS BROKEN--!!
IT...CAN'T BE: TORAMARU LOST CON-SCIOUSNESS AND FELL DOWN---!!
HURRY AND TRANSPORT HIM TO THE MEDICAL OFFICE---!!
IS...ISN'T THIS A MISTAKE IN THE STORY ---!!
TO... TORAMA RU-----!!

CHP. 309: FAITH TO THE PRINCIPAL!!



(SAKIGAKE!! OTOKOJUKU FAMOUS SCENES (1) - DAIISHIN PAAREN SEIHA FINAL MATCH: THE GENERAL FIGHT TSURUGI MOMOTAROU VS. DAIGOUIN JAKI)

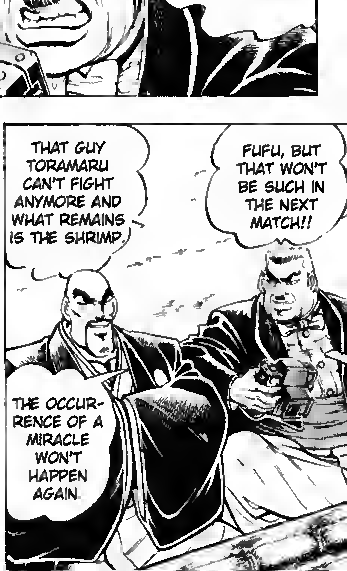
塾長への信義!!の巻

YOU'RE PATHETIC IN THAT YOU HOLD EVEN THAT POLAROID CAMERA AND CAN ONLY TAKE THAT SCENE!!
WAHHAHA, DO YOU SEE KUMADA!! THAT'S THE TRUE POWER OF OTOKO-JUKU!!

HE FELL INTO SERIOUS UNPRE-PAREDNESS.
NUUU, THAT ELDER HANADA WAS A FOOL!!

THE CON-TAINER OF A MAN ISN'T THE SIZE OF THEIR BODY!!
HOW IS THAT!?

KU: WHAT ARE YOU LETTING OUT: WHAT WILL OCCUR WITH THAT SHRIMP----!!


THAT GUY TORAMARU CAN'T FIGHT ANYMORE AND WHAT REMAINS IS THE SHRIMP.
FUFU, BUT THAT WON'T BE SUCH IN THE NEXT MATCH!!
THE OCCUR-RENCE OF A MIRACLE WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.

OSSHAA, GO ALL OUT ON HIM, HIDEMARO!!
HE...HE'S GOING TO KILL ME!!
HE... HE'LL KILL ME!!

SHOW HIM THE LARGE OTOKOJUKU SOUL THAT'S HIDDEN IN THAT SMALL BODY----!!
DA DAMN IT, EVERYONE'S SAVING SELFISH THINGS
GUTS!! SHOW YOUR GUTS, HIDEMARO ---!!

THAT'S MY PLAN, SINCE THERE WON'T BE ANY MERCY!!
I WILL CLEAR MY BIG BROTHER'S HUMILIA-TION
GO . . GOING TO KILL ME---!!
HE...HE REALLY IS----!!
HO. HOW HUGE IS HE?

HERE WE GO!!
WAAA ---!!
YOU ALREADY KNOW THE FORCE OF MY OPEN-HAND.
IF YOU TAKE A BLOW OF THIS OPEN-HAND, YOU WILL COME TO FLY TO THE END OF THAT WORLD!!
HIII!!

FUFU, YOU LITTLE MOUSE!! RUNNING AROUND WITHOUT REST!!
NUN!!
UWAA, I'LL BE KILLED!!

KYAHI----!! SA...SAVE ME----!!
BUT DO YOU THINK YOU'LL USE THAT FOREVER!!

RIGHT: THE PRINCIPAL WAS BOUGHT BY HIDEMARO'S NIMBLE-NESS...!!
BUT HE CAN'T WIN A MATCH BY JUST RUNNING.
FU, HIDEMARO SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR JUST BEING NIMBLE.
PERHAPS THE PRINCIPAL'S AIMS WERE ANOTHER...!!
WHAT! ANOTHER AIM!?
FUFU: THE TIME IS RIGHT.
THE TIME IS RIGHT!?
THERE, HIDEMARO ---!! SNAP AT HIS BACK ----!!
EH!?

WH... WHAT ---!!
HUH!!
TH...THAT HIDEMARO, HE'S SUDDENLY SNAPPING AT THE BACK OF HANADA-----!!

I...I GOT LIKE THIS WITHOUT THINKING BY A ROAR OF THE PRINCI-PAL...!!
E.. EVEN I DON'T GET THIS .....!!
FUFU, WHAT BEHAVIOR IS THIS!?
WH... WHATEVER I DO FROM HERE WOULD BE FINE---!!

DON'T YOU GET IT, HIDEMARO!!
YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER YOU WERE THE STANDARD-BEARER OF OTOKOJUKU'S GREAT SCHOOL FLAG----!!
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO MAGNIFICENTLY LIFTED THE GREAT FLAG SAID TO BE THE UNLIFTABLE SCHOOL FLAG DURING THE KYOUBA DAIYON KYOUSATSU!!
COMPARED TO THAT, THE WEIGHT OF THAT GUY SEEMS LIKE A FART!!
YOU CAN DO THIS!! LIFT UP THAT GUY'S BODY AND THROW HIM OUT OF THE ARENA---!!
PR... PRINCIPAL .....

DO... DON'T SAY THAT ...!!
YOU HAVE A PREPOSTEROUS PRINCIPAL AND I'M PITYING YOU.
FUFUFU, IS YOUR PRINCIPAL CERTAIN OF THAT? THAT I, WHO IS 200 KILOS CAN BE THROWN OUT BY YOU, A SHRIMP WHO IS JUST UNDER 50 KILOS?
HUH!?

BU..BUT, I CAN'T FORGIVE INSULTING THE PRINCIPAL-----!!
E..EVEN IF YOU INSULT ME, I DON'T MIND.

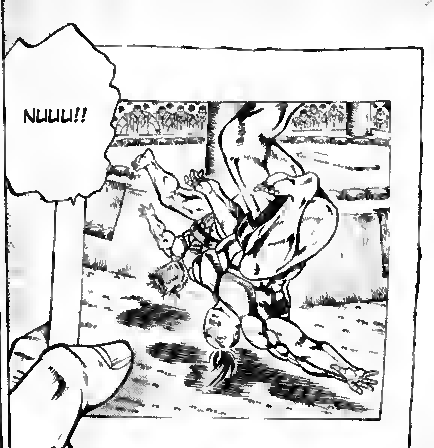
WHAT'S WRONG: ARE YOU PLANNING TO PUT IN POWER LIKE THAT!?
WHY IS THAT SHRIMP MAD!
NUO OOO --!!
NUUU
SO...SO THEN !!
THE .THE PRINCIPAL BELIEVES IN ME!!

HUH!?
I...I CAN'T BETRAY HIS EXPECTA-TION--!!
HA... HANADA'S BODY IS---!!
L...LOOK ---!! THAT'S ---!!
NUOOO ----!!

Y... YOU ----!!
OOH, HE... LIFTED IT----!! HIDEMARO HAS LIFTED HANADA'S BODY OVER HIS HEAD----!!

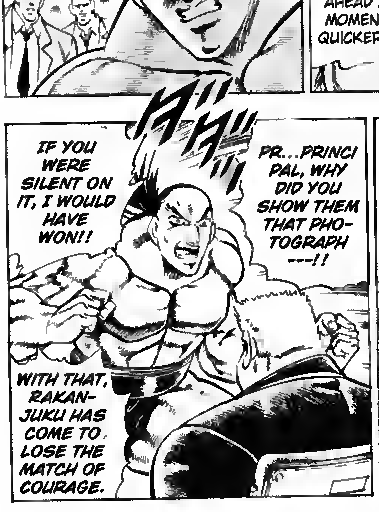
GUGU!!
UGA!!
I...DON'T KNOW WHO WIN THIS MATCH---!!
AAH! THAT HIDEMARO WAS GREAT AT LIFTING, BUT HE STAGGERED AND FELL OUT OF THE ARENA TOGETHER WITH HANADA--!!

AS PROOF, THE SHRIMP IS BELOW ME!!
DO...DON'T TALK STUPIDLY!! I WON!!
HO...HOW CAN I LOSE TO THAT SHRIMP----!!
BOTH COMPETITORS SEEMED TO EXACTLY FALL FROM THE ARENA SIMULTANEOUSLY----!!
WHI...WHICH LANDED ON THE GROUND FIRST----!?
DON'T KNOW. EVEN MY EYES SAW IT AS SIMULTANEOUS..."
DID YOU SEE, MOMO AT THAT MOMENT NOW!?
ジーッ
.....
.....


NUUU!!

HUH!!

YOUR HAIR TOUCHED THE GROUND AHEAD A MOMENT QUICKER!!
YOU'VE LOST, HANADA.


IF YOU WERE SILENT ON IT, I WOULD HAVE WON!!
PR...PRINCI PAL, WHY DID YOU SHOW THEM THAT PHO- TOGRAPH ---!!
WITH THAT, RAKAN- JUKU HAS COME TO LOSE THE MATCH OF COURAGE.

YOU'VE DONE WELL, HIDEMARO. IT'S...A MIRACULOUS GREAT VICTORY----!
Y...YOU DID IT---!! HIDEMARO WON----!!

MANLINESS IS THE VITAL THING!!
THE LIFE OF A MAN IS ALL CONSECUTIVE BATTLES!! IN THAT CASE, IF THERE ARE MOMENTS OF VICTORY, THERE ARE MOMENTS OF DEFEAT!!
YOU IDIOT ---!!
UGE!!
WE ABSOLUTELY WON'T LOSE THE NEXT MATCH!!
S**T, I HAVE TO GO PEE!!
PRINCIPAL OF FUJIN RAKANJUKU KUMADA KINZOU...!! HE'S THAT SORT OF MAN!!
FUFFUFU: THE PLAINS ARE COARSE, BUT ARE NOT PLAIN!!

TN: EDAJIMA'S LINE HERE WAS ONE DEFINED BY ISHIDA REISUKE, A LEADER OF THE JAPANESE NATIONAL RAILWAYS FROM 1956 TO HIS DEATH IN 1978

TN:

NOW THIS WAS A CHAPTER! AFTER THE SLIGHT LET-DOWN TORAMARU'S FIGHT HAD WITH THE ELDER HANADA, HIDEMARO AND THE YOUNGER HANADA SURE MADE UP FOR IT BIG TIME... IF ONLY BECAUSE IN A WAY THIS IS A CULMINATION OF AN OTOKOJUKU CHARACTER. THINK ABOUT IT. WHEN WE FIRST MET HIDEMARO AT THE START OF THE SERIES, HE WAS JUST THE PUNK SON OF A MOBSTER WHO DIDN'T RESPECT THE SCHOOL. BUT NOW, HE'S GROWN TO THE POINT THAT HE NOW SUBCONSCIOUSLY TAKES IN EDAJIMA'S WORDS AND FIGHTS FOR HIS SCHOOL, WHETHER HE REALIZES IT OR NOT!

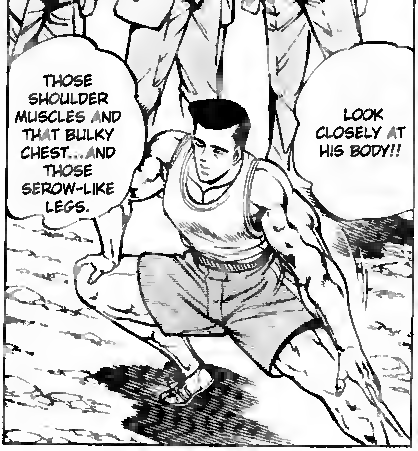
SURE A BIT REMINDED ME A BIT SOMEHOW OF SOME OTHER MANGA SERIES WHERE A FIGHTER WHO ISN'T USED TO FIGHTING RUNS AROUND A LOT (THOUGH FOR HIDEMARO IT MADE SENSE BEING SMALLER. AND QUICKER THAN A MASSIVE SUMO WRESTLER), BUT THE KID IN ACTION REALLY SHOWS HIS GUTS OFF AND SHOWS HOW MUCH HE'S GROWN FROM DAY ONE TO THIS VERY POINT. IN A WAY, THIS CHAPTER SORT OF PERSONIFIES WHAT MAKES THIS ARC DIFFERENT FROM THE ONES BEFORE IT. OTOKOJUKU ISN'T MERELY A SCHOOL OF COMBAT BUT A SCHOOL TO PROVE ONESELF AND ONES WORTH PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY AND SPIRITUALLY. AND WHILE I CAN'T SAY HIDEMARO WILL EVER FIGHT ALONGSIDE MOMO OR DATE ANY TIME SOON, HE DOESN'T NEED TO WITH CARRYING THE MASSIVE FLAG ALL THIS TIME AND WINNING A MATCH LIKE THIS

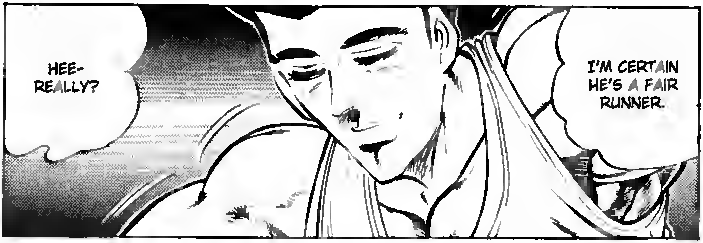
体力（マラソン）
PHYSICAL STRENGTH ……!! MARATHON...!!
理屈V.S.根性!!の巻
NOW IT'S A MATCH IN A MARATHON ---!!
WH... WHAT---!! THE MARATHON ---!!
I'VE GOT THIS MATCH ---!!
NOW THERE ISN'T A CHANCE OF WINNING FOR YOU.
FUFFUFU, I'VE GOT YOU EDAJIMA

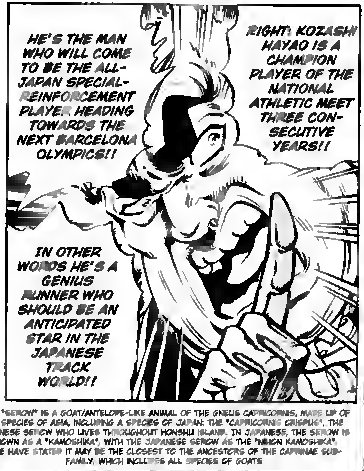
CHP. 310: REASON VS. GUTS!!

理屈(りくつ) V.S. 根性(こんじょう)!!の巻(まき)

COME OUT!! KOZASHI HAYAO!!
OSSU, PRINCIPAL.
HE'S RAKANJUKU'S MARATHON RUNNER?
WHAT, ISN'T THAT A SICKLY GUY?
IF IT'S HIM, IT SEEMS WE'LL WIN THIS.






HE'S THE MAN WHO WILL COME TO BE THE ALL-JAPAN SPECIAL-REINFORCEMENT PLAYER HEADING TOWARDS THE NEXT BARCELONA OLYMPICS!!
RIGHT. KOZASHI HAYAO IS A CHAMPION PLAYER OF THE NATIONAL athletic meet THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS!!
IN OTHER WORDS HE'S A GENIUS RUNNER WHO SHOULD BE AN ANTICIPATED STAR IN THE JAPANESE TRACK WORLD!!

THE A "SEROW" IS A GOAT/ANTELOPE-LIKE ANIMAL OF THE GENUS CAPRICORNIS, MADE UP OF SIX SPECIES OF ASIA, INCLUDING A SPECIES OF JAPAN THE "CAPRICORNIS CRISPUS", THE JAPANESE SEROW WHO LIVES THROUGHOUT HONSHU ISLAND. IN JAPANESE, THE SEROW IS KNOWN AS A "KAMOSHIKA", WITH THE JAPANESE SEROW AS THE "NIHON KAMOSHIKA". SOME HAVE STATED IT MAY BE THE CLOSEST TO THE ANCESTORS OF THE CAPRINAE SUB-FAMILY, WHICH INCLUDES ALL SPECIES OF GOATS

NUUU!!
UWAHHAHA, WELL EDAJIMA, BRING OUT YOUR RUNNER!!
THIS ISN'T LIKE THAT SUMO MATCH EARLIER!!
EVEN IF YOU CAN MAKE THE SUN RISE FROM THE WEST, YOU CAN'T HAVE A MIRACLE HAPPEN THIS TIME??!!
A--AH, WHAT ARE THOSE TWO THINKING?
YOU MUST BE JOKING, HAVING A MARATHON IN SPITE OF THIS F**KING HEAT.
THEY'RE DOING EVERYTHING SELFISHLY.
TOGASHI---!! WHERE ARE YOU, TOGASHI GENJI---!!
YOU ARE OTOKOJUKU'S MARATHON REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER ---!!
HUH!?

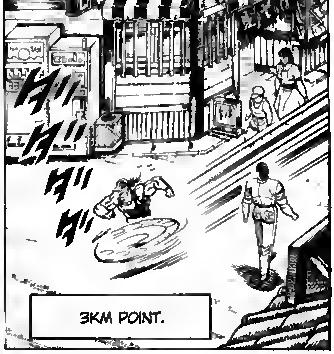
KUKU. WH...WHY ARE THEY LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT...!!
THE COURSE IS DREW IN THE MAP IN YOUR HANDS.
THE DISTANCE IS ABOUT 30KM!! LEAVE THROUGH THAT GATE AND RETURN TO HERE ONCE AGAIN.

IF YOU SEEM TO LAG BEHIND, THEN YOU WILL BE UNFORGIVEN IN LIVING AND PASSING THROUGH THIS GATE!!
O... OSU!!
YOUR OPPONENT IS AN OLYMPIC CANDIDATE, BUT IF YOU POSSESS YOUR GUTS, THEN I'M CERTAIN YOU SHOULD WIN!!
TOGASHI, THE MARATHON IS A THING THAT SHOULD BE THE ORIGIN OF SPORTS AND COMPETES WITH THE UTMOST LIMITS OF THE BODY AND MIND!!
WE'RE BEHIND YOU----!!
YOU CAN DO THIS, TOGASHI --!!
AL-RIGHT, SO THEN BOTH PLAYERS TAKE POSI-TIONS----!!
SORYAA, START ----!!
DAMN IT, THEY'RE DES-PERATE COMING TO THIS---!!

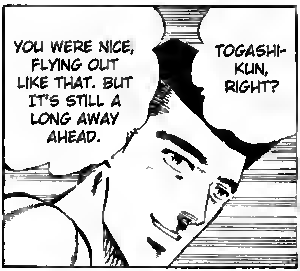
UO --!!
HORYA ---!!

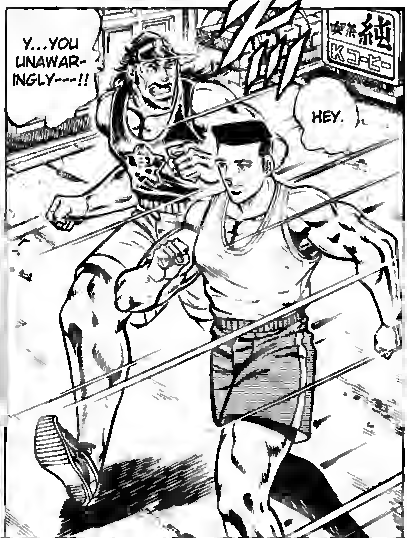
HE FLEW OUT WITH THAT SPEED FROM THE START .....!!
WI...WILL HE ALRIGHT, THAT TOGASHI?
SOR-YAA ---!!
GET AWAY---!! GET AWAY GET AWAY ---!!

WH... WHAT ---!!


3KM POINT.

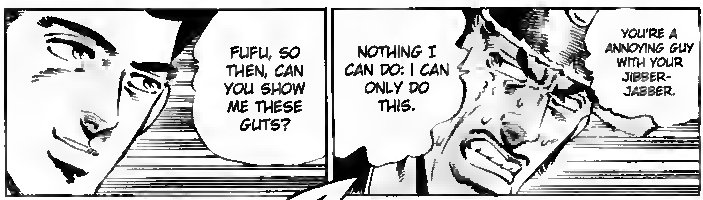
I WENT FIRST AND GOT AWAY!! WITH THAT I CAN'T SEE HIS SHADOW OR HIS FO. . . .!!
HEHHEHE, HOW'S THAT RUSHING START!


YOU WERE NICE, FLYING OUT LIKE THAT. BUT IT'S STILL A LONG AWAY AHEAD.
TOGASHI-KUN, RIGHT?


Y...YOU UNAWAR-INGLY---!!
HEY.

SH..SHUT UP! I KNOW THAT---!!

IN GENERAL, I REALLY HATE THE WORD "GUTS"
THAT OLD MENTAL THEORY HAS ALREADY COME TO BE OLD-FASHION A LONG TIME AGO.
THE MARATHON OF THE PRESENT DEMANDS SCIENTIFIC TRAINING THAT IS IN ACCORDANCE TO NORMAL ACCURATE TACTICS OF AN F-1 RACE AND SPORTS PHYSIOLOGY.
FU, YOU EARLIER WERE TOLD LIKE YOU COULD WIN IF YOU JUST HAVE GUTS BY YOUR PRINCIPAL, BUT HE MADE A MISTAKE.


FUFU, SO THEN, CAN YOU SHOW ME THESE GUTS?
NOTHING I CAN DO: I CAN ONLY DO THIS.
YOU'RE A ANNOYING GUY WITH YOUR JIBBER-JABBER.

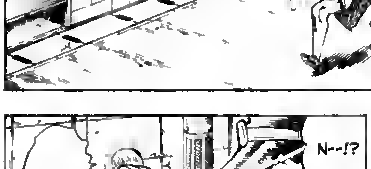
UH!!
HOW ABOUT YOU COME ALONG TO WHEREVER I GO.

10KM POINT
FUFU, YOU'RE QUITE INSISTENT.
BUT YOUR BREATHING IS CONSISTENTLY DISORDERED AND EVEN YOUR LEGS ARE GETTING WORN OUT.
I'M GOING TO DRIVE A COLD ICE COFFEE AT THAT COFFEE SHOP.
AND WON'T COME OUT FROM THAT SHOP FOR 10 MINUTES. IN BRIEF: THAT'S A HANDICAP.
WH... WHAT'S THAT!!
RIGHT, HOW ABOUT GIVING YOU ONE HANDICAP.
IF I THINK ABOUT IT, A MATCH OF MYSELF, WHO WILL BE CALLED THE STAR OF BARCELONA, AND YOU, A COMPLETE NOVICE, IS AN ODD TALE.
A... HANDICAP .....!?

AND DON'T HAVE A TEARFUL FACE ABOUT IT LATER---!! DON'T FORGET THE TALE OF THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE---!!
HEH, DO WHAT YOU WANT.

TRY TO MAKE A LONG DISTANCE DURING THIS
WELL, DON'T BE RESERVED, GO QUICKLY.
Coffee

20KM POINT

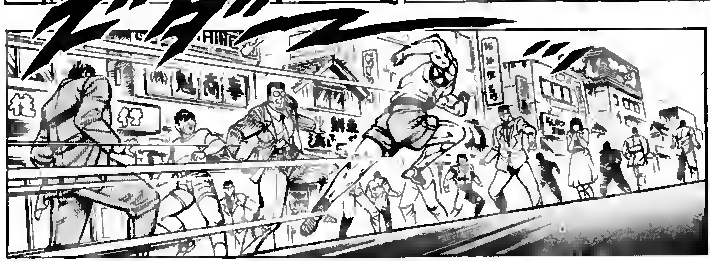

UUH-
N--!?

AAH!!

I...I STILL DON'T SEE HIM!!
A... ALR-IGHT. I HAVE LESS THAN 10KM LEFT.
I...IF I GO LIKE THIS, THEN IT WILL BE A GREAT UPSET!!

PL...PLEASE, TAKE ME TO A HOSPITAL ...!!
MY...MY CHEST HAS SUDDENLY .....!!
WH... WHAT'S WRONG, GRANDMA !?
YOU...YOU'RE TELLING THAT TO ME NOW---!!
A... HOSPITAL ---!!
WHERE IS THE HOSPITAL, GRANDMA!!
N... NOTHING I CAN DO---!!
O...OOH... PLEASE .....
GUKU!!

FROM HERE I'LL SHOW THE TRUE POWER OF THE OLYMPIC CANDIDATE!!
WE-LL, SHALL I GO WITH FULL POWER?
THANKS FOR THAT.
Coffee



TH...THIS IS BAD; IF I DON'T HURRY!!
DA...DAMN IT, THAT WAS A SERIOUS DETOUR!!
I LEAVE YOU THE REST---!!
HO...HOLD ON, JUST A MOMENT YOU---!!
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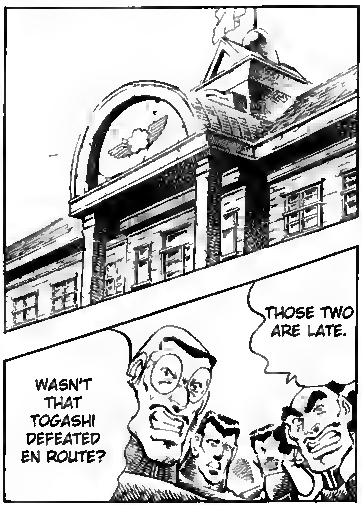
FR...FROM HERE WILL BE THE GUTS OF OTOKOJUKU'S TOGASHI GENJI----!!
HERE I GO----!!

HHHHH....


THOSE TWO ARE LATE.
WASN'T THAT TOGASHI DEFEATED EN ROUTE?

OOH, LOOK. SOMEONE IS RUNNING HERE---!!
TH...THAT'S KOZASHI---!!
FU, NATURALLY.
WHICH IS IT--!! WHICH WILL PASS THROUGH THE GATE FIRST---!!
TH...THEY'RE NECK-AND-NECK---!! IT'S A DEAD HEAT IN FRONT OF THE GOAL!!
N...NO, TOGASHI IS IMMEDIATELY COMING FROM BEHIND----!!
HUH!?

OOH, HERE COMES TOGASHI ---!!
UORYA ---!!
UHH!
I CAN'T LOSE THIS!!
Y... YOU --!!
FINISH!!
GUWA !!

UWAHHAHA, YOU'VE DONE IT KOZASHI!!
WITH THAT, I CAN FULLY STAND FOR THE FACE OF RAKAN-JUKU---!!
TO... TOGASHI .....!!
THIS ..IS GREATLY REGRET-TABLE. HE LOST...!!
TH... THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO...
I...I LOST...!!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY SOME-THING!?
YOU DON'T HAVE EVEN A WORD OF EXCUSE?
WELL, THAT IS FINE.

I GOT A PHONE CALL NOW FROM A PERSON WHO SAID THEY WERE THE SON OF THE OLD WOMAN YOU TRANSPORTED TO THE HOSPITAL.
HE SEEMED TO KNOW YOU WERE A STUDENT HERE FROM YOUR SHIRT MARK.
HE WAS THANKING YOU WHILE CRYING..... YOU'RE THE BENEFACTOR OF HIS MOTHER'S LIFE...!!
PR... PRINCI-PAL...!!
DON'T REGRET THIS!!
YOU HAVEN'T LOST, EITHER THE MATCH OR AS A MAN!!
WH...WHAT...THE HOSPITAL...!! THE HOSPITAL SHOULD BE IN A PLACE QUITE SEPARATED FROM THE COURSE!!
SO THEN, HE RAN A FURTHER DISTANCE THAN YOU DID!!
FUFU, IS THAT GUTS.....
IT SEEMS THE GUTS HE SPOKE ABOUT ARE FOR REAL!!
AL--RIGHT, WE'RE GOING TO THE NEXT MATCH ----!!

TN:

YEAH...OTOKOJUKU TECHNICALLY LOST THIS ONE...I MEAN, TOGASHI TECHNICALLY LOST THIS ONE...YEAH, IT JUST FEELS WEIRD. FOR ONCE, TOGASHI ACTUALLY LOST...BUT IT ACTUALLY SHOWED HE'S WON AS MUCH AS IT SOUNDS STRANGE, THIS CHAPTER SORT OF DEMONSTRATES WHAT TOGASHI HAS LEARNED AND BEEN THROUGH IN THE SERIES JUST AS MUCH AS THE LAST ONE DEFINED HIDEMARO'S CHARACTER. HE'S STILL A COMPLAINER WHO SORT OF GETS EASILY ON EDAJIMA'S IRE, BUT HE SEEMS TO HAVE GAINED A LOT ON HIS OWN TO ADD TO HIS ALREADY IMPRESSIVE GUTSY BEHAVIOR.

HECK, THE TWO KEYS TO THE CHAPTER THAT SORT OF SHOW HIS CHANGES INCLUDE HIS HELPING THE OLD WOMAN (REMEMBER HE DID SOMETHING SIMILAR WAY BACK IN VOL. 2 EVEN IF THAT NEARLY SCREWED HIM THEN)...AND JUST THE WAY HE AND EDAJIMA CONFRONTED EACH OTHER AND HE DIDN'T HAVE A BAD THING TO SAY BACK TO HIM FOR ONCE. HE ACTUALLY ACCEPTED HIS DEFEAT AND EDAJIMA ACCEPTED HIS "VICTORY" IN HELPING THE WOMAN GET TO THE HOSPITAL TO SAVE HER LIFE. FURTHERMORE, HE DID ALL THAT AND NEARLY CAUGHT UP TO MARATHONER HAYAO FROM A GREATER DISTANCE IN A COMPLETELY OUT-OF-THE-WAY LOCATION EVEN WITH A HANDICAP!

WHILE I USUALLY COMPLAIN ABOUT "HANDICAPS" AS SEEN IN A COUPLE CHAPTERS AGO, THE WAY IT WAS USED HERE SORT OF ALLOWED FOR TOGASHI TO NOT MERELY GET A HEAD START ON HAYAO, BUT ALSO GO THE DISTANCE TO HELP THE WOMAN AND ULTIMATELY RUN BACK TO THE COURSE IN TIME FOR THE CLIMACTIC FINISH. FOR ONCE IT ACTUALLY WORKED IN THE STORY'S BEHALF...AND IN A WAY TURNED INTO A NICE CLIMACTIC CONCLUSION TO TOGASHI'S CHARACTER, SHOWING HOW LITTLE HE'S CHANGED IN HIS GUTS ..

BUT HOW MUCH HIS CHARACTER HAS CHANGED FROM EVERYTHING HE'S BEEN THROUGH. (EVEN IF MORE OF IT SEEMS REFLECTIVE OF STUFF HE DID WHEN HE WAS ONE OF THE BEST CHARACTERS OF THE SERIES...AND NOT MERELY SIDE COMMENTARY WITH TORAMARU)

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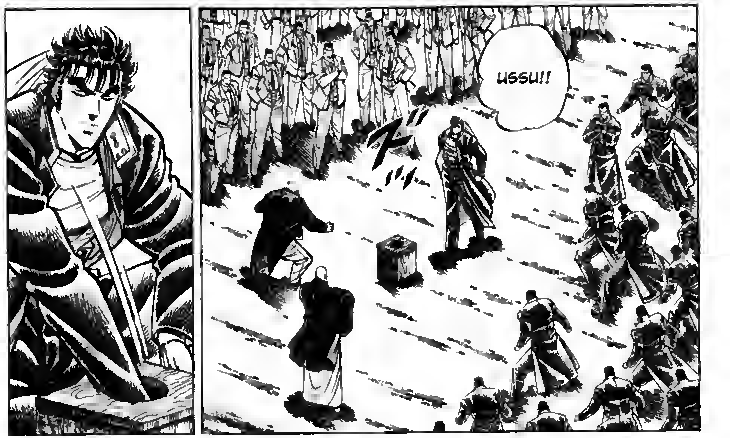
CHP. 311: A TRUE GENIUS!!

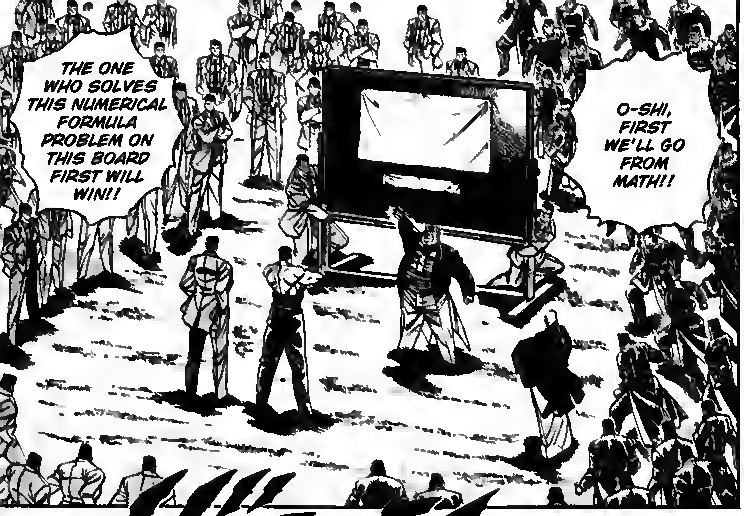
FU, HE'S BECOME HEATED AND I DON'T KNOW IF EVEN HIS BLOOD VESSELS ARE DISCONNECTED.
WELL, CHOOSE OUR NEXT MATCH ---!!

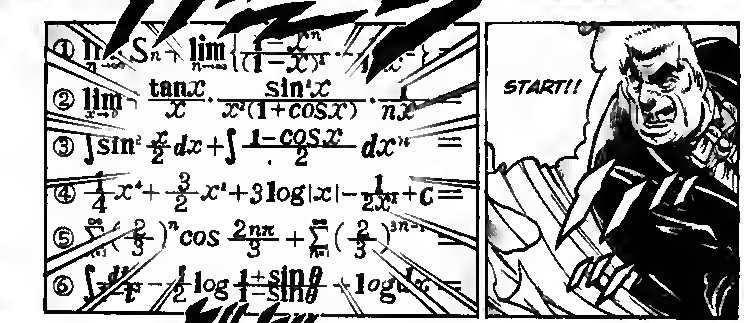

USSU!!

NE...NEXT IS GOING TO BE A STUDYING MATCH ---!!
WH... WHAT THE ----!!
MATH, ENGLISH, SCIENCE...!?
INTELLI-GENCE...
智力
数学
英語
科学

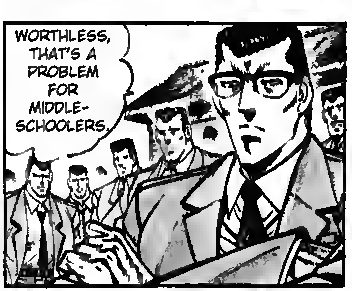
KURI-MOTO SHINNO-SUKE!!
COME OUT!!
EVERYTHING HAS TO BE COMBINED TO TRULY BE A FIRST-CLASS MAN!!
FUFU. OF COURSE. EVEN IF YOU HAVE MUCH PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND GUTS, A STUDENT WHO FALLS BEHIND IN HIS STUDIES CAN'T COME TO DO ANYTHING!!
OSSU, PRINCI-PAL.
WAHAHAHA, CAN'T YOU LET OUT EVEN A SURPRISED VOICE!!
WELL, EDAJIMA! WHO ARE YOU SENDING OUT!!
WITH AN IQ OF 250, HE'S CORRECTLY A PRODIGY AMONG PRODIGIES!! THAT IS THE PARTICIPANT PLAYER FOR OUR FUJIN RAIKANJUKU'S INTELLIGENCE MATCH----!!
HE BROKE THROUGH COLLEGE CERTIFICATION IN 6TH GRADE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND TOOK 1ST PLACE IN THE ALL NATION STUDENT KNOWLEDGE EXAM FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS!!

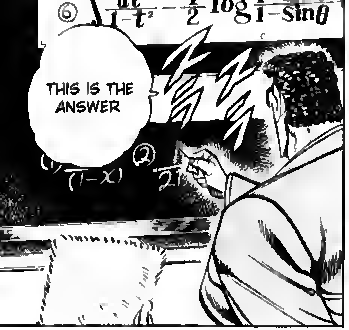
EH?M... ME!?
YOU'RE OTOKOJUKU'S INTELLIGENCE REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER---!!
TAZAWA ----!! GET OUT HERE!!
YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT TAZAWA WILL TAKE YOUR THOUGHT TO SERVE YOU WITH ALL HIS POWER!!
OSSU, THANK YOU FOR THE NOMINATION, PRINCIPAL!!
.....

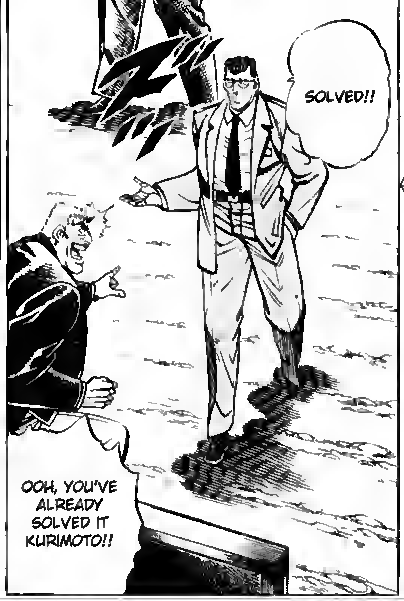

THE ONE WHO SOLVES THIS NUMERICAL FORMULA PROBLEM ON THIS BOARD FIRST WILL WIN!!
O-SHI, FIRST WE'LL GO FROM MATH!!


START!!

WH...WHY IS THERE ENGLISH IN A MATH PROBLEM ..... !!
TH...THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS...!!

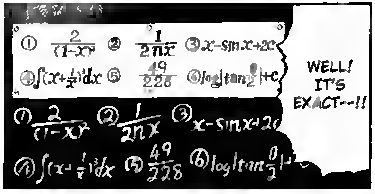

WORTHLESS, THAT'S A PROBLEM FOR MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS.


THIS IS THE ANSWER


SOLVED!!
OOH, YOU'VE ALREADY SOLVED IT KURIMOTO!!

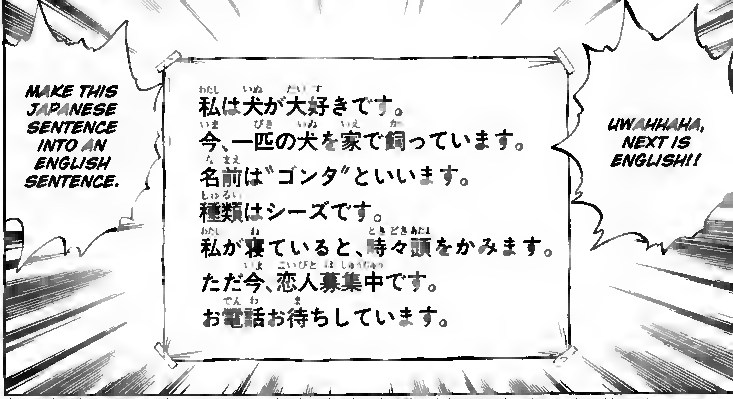
WE-LL, IS THIS CORRECT!?

N!! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU!!


WELL! IT'S EXACT--!!

WATER!! PUT...PUT WATER IN A BUCKET AND BRING THEM HERE---!!
THIS... CAN'T BE! TAZAWA'S LOST CONSCIOUSNESS--!!

OOH!!



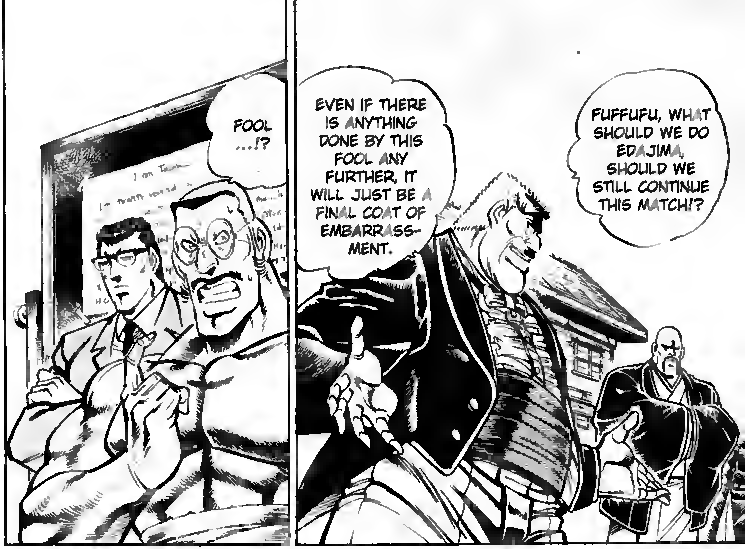
"I LOVE MY DOG. CURRENTLY, I AM TAKING CARE OF A DOG IN MY HOME. ITS NAME IS "GONTA". ITS BREED IS A SHIH TZU. WHEN I'M ASLEEP, IT OCCASIONALLY CHEWS ON MY HEAD. RIGHT NOW, I'M TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR A SWEETHEART. WAIT FOR MY PHONE NUMBER."

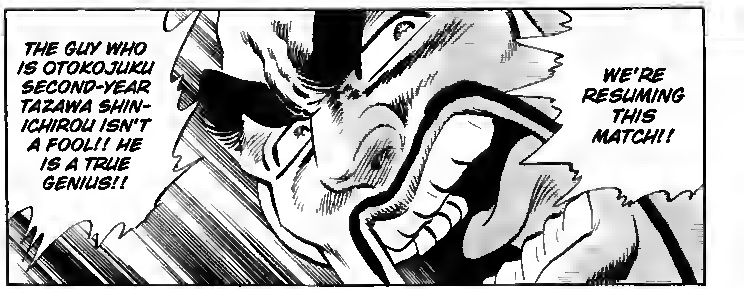
I SHOWED A TERRIBLE DISGRACE AT MATH, BUT I WON'T BE AS SUCH NOW...!!
FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN PARTICULAR ARE MY GREATEST SPECIALTY!!
THE TIME LIMIT IS FIVE MINUTES !!
NOW WRITE DOWN YOUR ANSWER ON THE PAGE I GAVE TO YOU!!

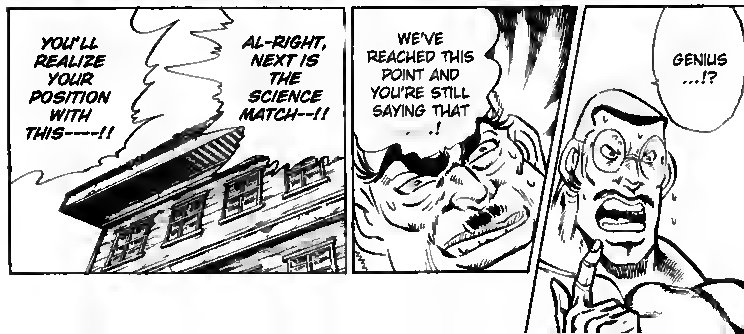
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S ITALIAN OR MONGOLIAN!!
AT ANY RATE SHOW ME THE MATCH!!
SORYAAA START!!
!?
ORYAA ---!!
OH---!! TAZAWA IS WRITING WITH AMAZING FORCE!!
HE...HE PERHAPS MAY BE FOR REAL.
FU.
I'VE DONE IT, PRINCIPAL!!
UWAHHAHA, YOU'VE ALREADY DONE IT THOUGH NOT EVEN A MINUTE HAS ELAPSED YET, KURIMOTO!!
AL-RIGHT, I'LL COMPARE IT WITH THE ANSWER!!

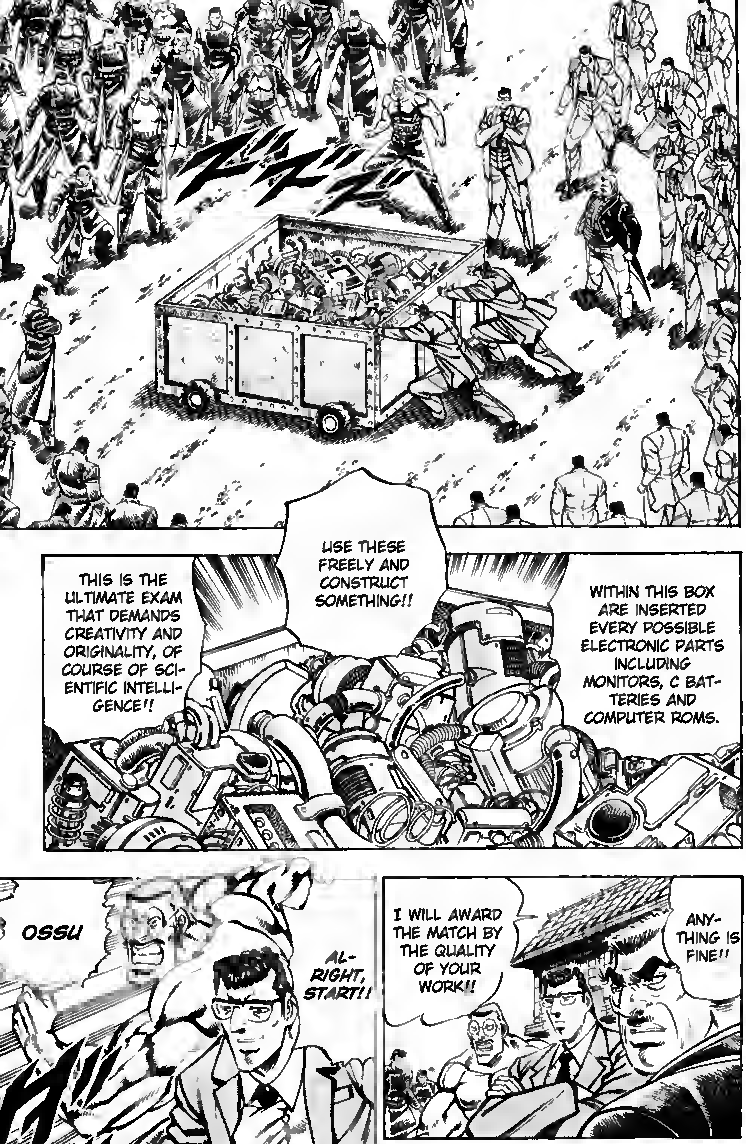
very much.
my house.
ta."
he sometimes bite.
just now.
us.
THIS TRULY IS A PERFECT ANSWER!!
MAGNIFI-CENT!! AGAIN YOU ARE PERFECT!!
HERE YOU GO, FOR YOUR PERUSAL!!
WE--LL, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE ITALIAN!?
N--!!
KUKU
PERFECT
UUH, TH... THAT'S!!

IS...ISN'T THIS JUST MERELY MAKING THE JAPANESE SENTENCE INTO ROMAJI!!
UWAHHAHA, WHAT IS THIS!!
WATASIWA INUGA DAISUKI DESU
IMA IPPIKI NO INU O IEDE KATTE
IMASU. NAMAEWA "GONTA" TO IIMASU
SYURUI WA SHIZU DESU. WATASIGA
NETEIRU TO ATAMA O KAMI
MASU. TADAIMA KOIBITO BOSYU
TYU DESU. ODENWA OMATISITE
MASU.
IT'S... DIFFICULT TO STOP LAUGHING AT THAT!! WAH-HAHAHA
UWAHHAHA, THAT'S GREAT!! ROMAJI IS ITALIAN ---!!
!?
N..NO GOOD, THAT'S WHAT THAT WAS
THAT IS ITALIAN!!
CORRECT!! THE CAPITAL OF ITALY IS ROME!!


FOOL ...!?
EVEN IF THERE IS ANYTHING DONE BY THIS FOOL ANY FURTHER, IT WILL JUST BE A FINAL COAT OF EMBARRASSMENT.
FUFFUFU, WHAT SHOULD WE DO EDAJIMA, SHOULD WE STILL CONTINUE THIS MATCH!?


THE GUY WHO IS OTOKOJUKU SECOND-YEAR TAZAWA SHINICHIROU ISN'T A FOOL!! HE IS A TRUE GENIUS!!
WE'RE RESUMING THIS MATCH!!


YOU'LL REALIZE YOUR POSITION WITH THIS----!!
AL-RIGHT, NEXT IS THE SCIENCE MATCH--!!
WE'VE REACHED THIS POINT AND YOU'RE STILL SAYING THAT ..!
GENIUS ...!?


USE THESE FREELY AND CONSTRUCT SOMETHING!!
THIS IS THE ULTIMATE EXAM THAT DEMANDS CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY, OF COURSE OF SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE!!
WITHIN THIS BOX ARE INSERTED EVERY POSSIBLE ELECTRONIC PARTS INCLUDING MONITORS, C BATTERIES AND COMPUTER ROMS.
OSSU
ALRIGHT, START!!
I WILL AWARD THE MATCH BY THE QUALITY OF YOUR WORK!!
ANYTHING IS FINE!!

O...ON TOP OF THAT, HE'S A GENIUS.
TAZAWA IS THE GUY WHO SHOULD BE THE PRESIDENT OF IDIOT STUDENTS AT OTOKOJUKU AND YET
REALLY, WHAT WAS THE PRINCIPAL THINKING WITH TAZAWA ...!!

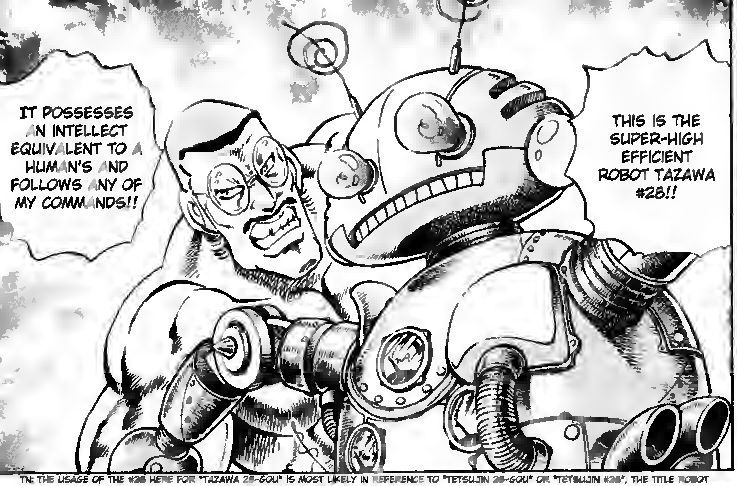
OF WHAT!?

FU, I DON'T THINK SUCH.
THAT MAN'S EYES FOR SEEING MEN IS FOR REAL!!
I'M CERTAIN IN TAZAWA IS A PRODIGY OF SOMETHING AS SAID BY THE PRINCIPAL!!

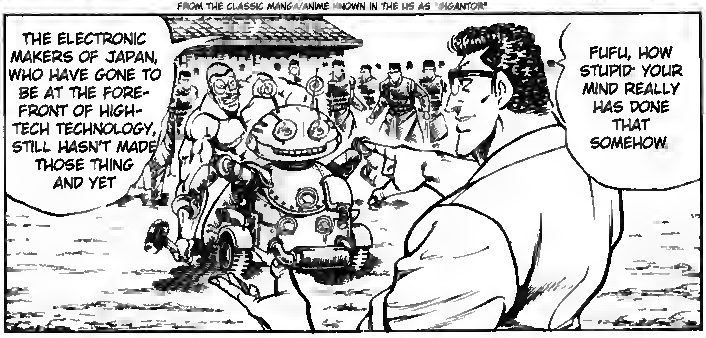
TWO HOURS PASS

I'VE CREATED A SUPER-HIGH EFFI-CIENT RADIO.
OOH...
AL-RIGHT, THAT'S ENOUGH BOTH OF YOU!!
FIRST WILL BE KURIMOTO: WHAT HAVE YOU MADE ----!!
A...AMAZING! YOU REALLY ARE A GENIUS, KURIMOTO!!
OF COURSE, IT'S TONAL QUALITY IS PRE-EMINENT.
IT GAINS THE RECEPTION OF STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND, ON TOP OF THAT, YOU CAN LISTEN TO CDS ON IT.
WELL-THEN, WHAT HAVE YOU!?

WH... WHAT IS TH...THAT ---!!
WHA!!

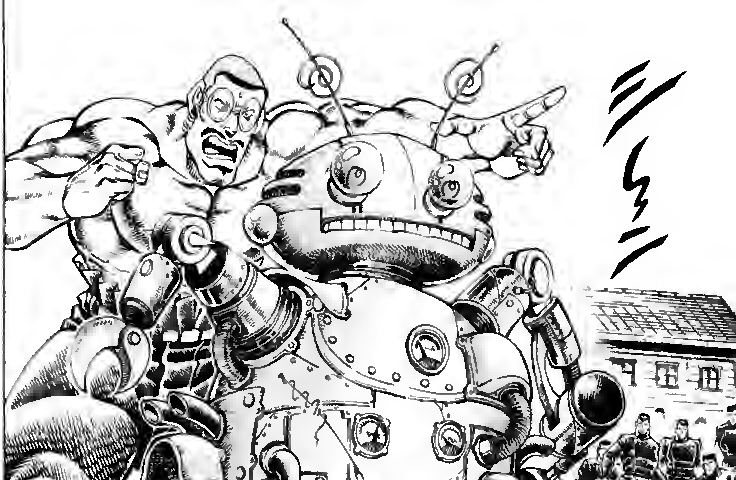

IT POSSESSES AN INTELLECT EQUIVALENT TO A HUMAN'S AND FOLLOWS ANY OF MY COMMANDS!!
THIS IS THE SUPER-HIGH EFFICIENT ROBOT TAZAWA #28!!

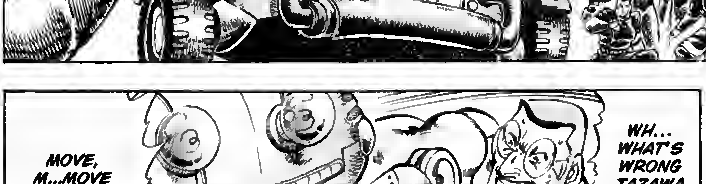
TN: THE USAGE OF THE #28 HERE FOR "TAZAWA 28--GOU" IS MOST LIKELY IN REFERENCE TO "TETSUJIN 28--GOU" OR "TETSUJIN #28", THE TITLE ROBOT FROM THE CLASSIC MANGA/ANIME KNOWN IN THE US AS "GIGANTOR"


THE ELECTRONIC MAKERS OF JAPAN, WHO HAVE GONE TO BE AT THE FORE-FRONT OF HIGH-TECH TECHNOLOGY, STILL HASN'T MADE THOSE THING AND YET
FUFU, HOW STUPID! YOUR MIND REALLY HAS DONE THAT SOMEHOW.

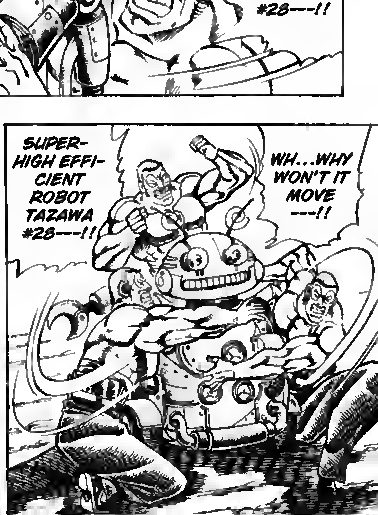
STRIKE THAT INSOLENT GUY ONCE IN THE FACE--!!
GO, TAZAWA #28!!
AL-RIGHT, WATCH THIS!!
IN THAT CASE, QUICKLY MAKE IT MOVE.
IT FOLLOWS ANY OF YOUR COMMANDS?

TN: IT'S REALLY STRANGE TO MAKE A COMMENT ABOUT THIS COMMENT HERE, BUT CONSIDER THIS: THIS OTOKOJUKU CHAPTER EMERGED IN 1991 WHEN ROBOTICS WAS STILL RAPIDLY EMERGING...AND BY 1999, SONY HAD RELEASED THE POPULAR ROBOT DOG AIBO...AND BY 2000, THEY HAD THE MOST ADVANCED HUMANOID ROBOT YET KNOWN AS ASIMO. WHILE IT'S DIFFICULT TO MEASURE THE ADVANCEMENT IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR THE USAGE OF ROBOTS EVEN BY THAT POINT, THE FACT THAT ROBOTICS WAS A FEW YEARS FROM SOME MAJOR BREAKTHROUGHS IN JAPAN WITH THIS COMMENT BEING MADE IN 1991 SHOWS HOW FAR WE'VE COME SINCE THEN



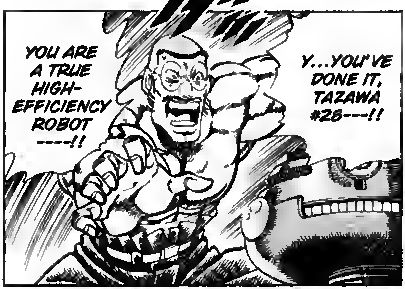

MOVE, M...MOVE ---!!
WH... WHAT'S WRONG TAZAWA #28---!!

FUFU, HOW STUPID.


SUPER-HIGH EFFI-CIENT ROBOT TAZAWA #28---!!
WH...WHY WON'T IT MOVE ---!!

I'M FINE BEING CALLED A FOOL--!!
PLEASE, TAZAWA #28--!!
BUT I WANT YOU TO MOVE FOR ME FOR THE PRINCI-PAL WHO BELIEVES IN ME AND MY ALLIES WHO ARE GIVING THEIR SUPPORT IN ME---!!
A ROBOT MADE BY A FOOL DOESN'T HAVE REASON TO MOVE
THERE IS A PAPER-THIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FOOL AND A GENIUS, BUT YOU ARE A GENUINE FOOL
KUKU
MANLY ACKNOWL-EDGE YOU'VE LOST
QUIT DOING THAT, MAN WHO IS BAD AT GIVING UP.
N!?
HO, WH...WHAT ARE YOU DOING ---!!
FU, WHAT IS THIS JUNK.

AGYA !!
I...IT MOVED---!! THE ROBOT TAZAWA MADE HAS---!!
WH...WHAT ---!!


YOU ARE A TRUE HIGH-EFFICIENCY ROBOT ----!!
Y...YOU'VE DONE IT, TAZAWA #28---!!

EVEN EDISON AND EINSTEIN WEREN'T CALLED GENIUSES FROM THE BEGINNING
FU, THAT IS YOUR POWER.

TA... TAZAWA #28.....!!
TH...THAT'S .....!!
GUHA!!
SA...SAVE US---!!
UWAAAH--!! TAZAWA #28 IS RUNNING WILD---!!
TA...TAZAWA, YOU ARE THE BIGGEST FOOL OF OTOKO-JUKU AFTER ALL---!!

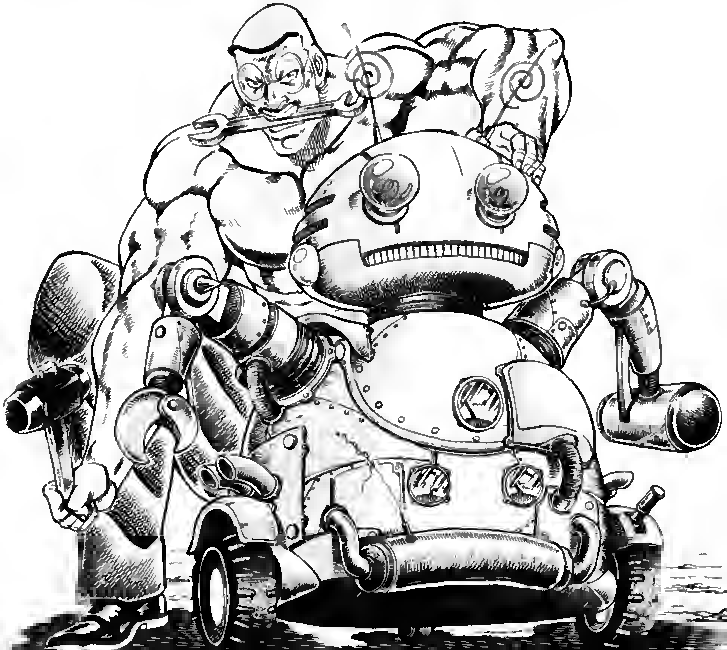
TN:

(CONTINUES TO LAUGH HYSTERICALLY AT TAZAWA'S "ROMAJI/ITALIAN" JOKE)

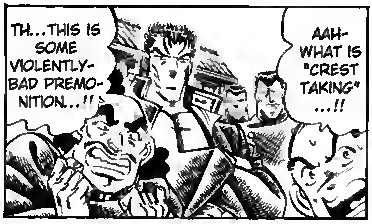
SORRY...SORRY, THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE FUNNIEST DIALOGUE GAGS THIS SERIES HAS HAD IN A LONG TIME. THEN AGAIN, ANYTHING TAZAWA DOES, PARTICULARLY IN SCREWING UP FOREIGN LANGUAGES (OR HIS OWN LANGUAGE) BARES ANY MENTION OF COMEDY FOR THIS SERIES.

WELL ALONGSIDE THAT, THIS CHAPTER REALLY FELT LIKE A NICE BREATH OF FRESH AIR FOR A MANGA THAT IS SO OBSESSED IN BATTLES OF THE PHYSICAL, GIVING US A BIZARRE BUT FUN MENTAL/INTELLECTUAL BATTLE THAT ACTUALLY HIGHLIGHTS TAZAWA, WHO IS UNDERSTATED AND TYPICALLY IGNORED AS PROBABLY ONE OF THE FUNNIEST AND MOST INTERESTING STUDENTS OF THE MANGA. WE SORT OF KNOW FROM PRIOR THAT SOMEHOW TAZAWA USES HIS BRAINS IN BATTLE AND MORE OR LESS SEEMS TO FIND WAYS TO USES HIS INTELLECT TO GET THROUGH A LOT OF THE MORE STRENUOUS MOMENTS (HECK, THE PUNCHLINE COULD HAVE BEEN HINTED AT BY THE WEIRD DEVICE HE GAVE TO MATSUO IN THE FIGHT WITH THE AMERICANS) BUT IT NEVER REALLY WAS HIGHLIGHTED AS A FOCUS OUTSIDE A GAG HERE OR THERE PRIOR TO THIS CHAPTER.

LIKEWISE, I DID LIKE HIS RIVALRY WITH KURIMOTO, BEING THE SMUG SUPER-GENIUS OF RAKANJUKU (I STILL WONDER HOW ALL THESE SUPER-ATHLETES AND GENIUSES END UP AT A SCHOOL LIKE THIS ..CONSIDERING EDAJIMA USUALLY GETS THE DROP-OUTS AND THE ABANDONED STUDENTS KICKED OUT OF EVERYWHERE OUT) AND HOW EDAJIMA ACTUALLY GIVES FAITH TO HIM REGARDLESS OF HOW BAD THINGS GOT (LIKE...THE ROMAJI BIT) ADMITTEDLY I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO MAYBE HAVE MORE OF HIM AND EVEN A BIT MORE OF "TAZAWA #28" ..BUT WITH THINGS AS THEY WERE, WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL THE EGGHEAD GOT A MATCH AT ALL. (AND THAT IT WASN'T BOGGED BY SOME OF THE CRAP THAT TORAMARU OR TOGASHI GOT)



THAT'S RIGHT! MORE AND MORE WE'RE REACHING THE CRITICAL MOMENT FROM HERE!!
FUFU, WITH THAT, IT'S ONE VICTORY, ONE DEFEAT AND ONE TIE
貫目の信!!の巻



TN: THE TRUE NAME IN JAPANESE OF THE PRESENCE CHALLENGE IS "DAIMONDORI", WITH "DAIMON" BEING A CREST OF A YAZUKA GANG

(SAKIGAKE!! OTOKOJUKU FAMOUS SCENES (4))
TENCHOU GORIN DAIBUKAI RYOUZANPAKU 16-GREATS AKASHI GOUJI VS GENERAL SOUKOU

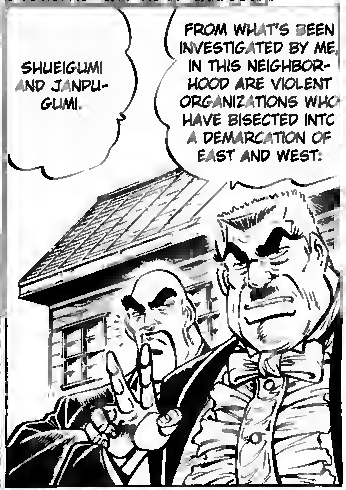
CHP. 312: FAITHFUL PRESENCE!!

貫目の信!!の巻

PRESENCE IS KNOWN AS THE LARGENESS OF THE COURAGE AND LOOKS OF A MAN.
SO THEN, LET ME EXPLAIN THE METHOD OF THE MATCH!!
FROM HERE THEY WILL COMPETE IN THESE COURAGE AND LOOKS

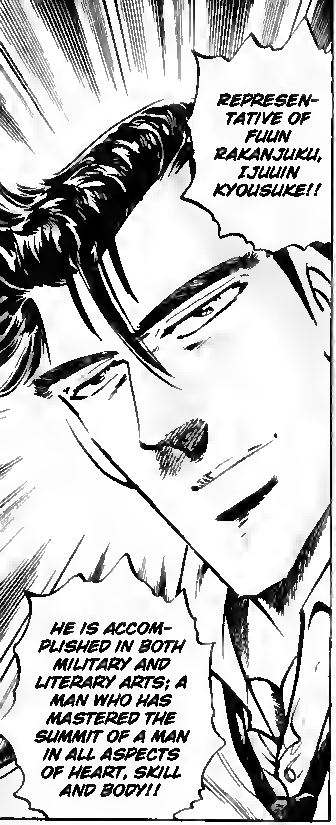
TN: THE TOP KANJI HERE IS "SHU" AS IN "SHUEIGUMI", THE LOWER IS "JAN" AS IN "JANPUGUMI"

YOU WILL GO TO THE OFFICES OF THESE GANGS AND STEAL THEIR CRESTS, WHICH SHOULD BE CALLED THEIR LIVES AS THE SYMBOLS OF THEIR FAMILIES!!
THAT IS THE PRESENCE MATCH!!


SHUEIGUMI AND JANPU-GUMI.
FROM WHAT'S BEEN INVESTIGATED BY ME, IN THIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD ARE VIOLENT ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE BISECTED INTO A DEMARCATION OF EAST AND WEST.

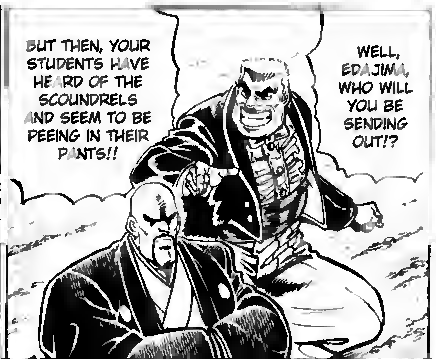
TN: SILLY NOTE: OBVIOUSLY BOTH GANGS ARE NAMED AFTER TWO ASPECTS OF THE MAGAZINE/PUBLISHER. IWAYASHITA WAS ASSOCIATED WITH AT THE TIME: SHUEISHA OR THE "SHUEI GANG" IS BASED ON SHUEISHA, THE COMPANY BEHIND WSJ, WHILE JANPUGUMI OR THE "JANPU GANG", IS A LITERAL READING THAT HAS A SIMILAR READING TO "JUMP" AS IN "WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP"

WHOEVER RETURNS POSSESSING THE CREST FIRST WILL BE THE WINNER!!
RIGHT!! ONE REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER OF BOTH SCHOOLS WILL BE CHOSEN, WITH ONE PARTY COMING TO GO TO THE SHIEIGUMI AND THE OTHER TO JANPUGUMI!!
WH... WHAT'S THAT ---!!
SO HE'S SAYING THAT TH...THEY'RE GOING TO RAID SCOUNDREL OFFICES---!!
DO YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT?
HOW'S THAT, EDAJIMA?
WHATEVER THE MATCH, WE WON'T SHOW A VACANCY!!
FUFU, DO AS YOU LIKE!!
COME OUT!! IJUUIN!!
WH...WHAT EXACTLY ARE THEY THINKING OF US, RE...REALLY ...!!
TH...THEY'VE GONE MAD...!!


REPRESENTATIVE OF FUJIN RAKANJUKU, IJUUIN KYOUSUKE!!
HE IS ACCOMPLISHED IN BOTH MILITARY AND LITERARY ARTS; A MAN WHO HAS MASTERED THE SUMMIT OF A MAN IN ALL ASPECTS OF HEART, SKILL AND BODY!!

USU!!

PRINCIPAL, I WANT YOU TO LET ME CHOOSE THE PERSON.


BUT THEN, YOUR STUDENTS HAVE HEARD OF THE SCOUNDRELS AND SEEM TO BE PEEING IN THEIR PANTS!!
WELL, EDAJIMA, WHO WILL YOU BE SENDING OUT!?

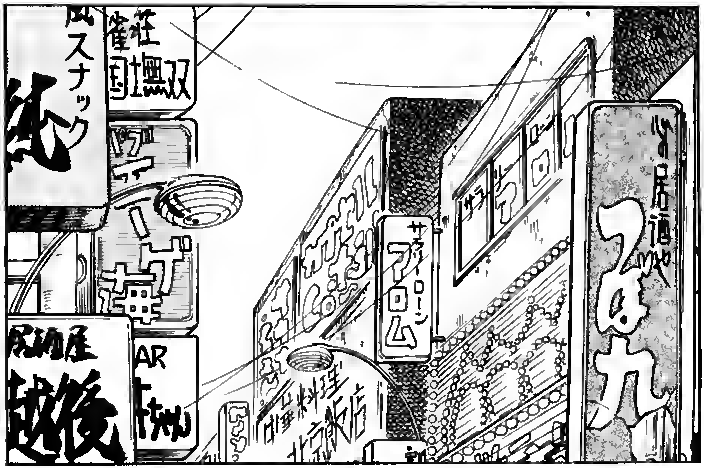
!!
HUH!!
I NOMINATE YOU.
REPRESENTATIVE OF OTOKOJUKU: TSURUGI MOMOTAROU!!

OSU!!
THAT GUY BRAZENLY NOMINATED MOMO..
WH... WHAT -----!!
YOU SHOULD DO THIS AS YOUR HEART'S CONTENTS, TSURUGI!!!
FUFU, FINE.

THE PLACE IS AS WRITTEN ON THE MAP!!
IJUUIN WILL GO TO SHUUEIGUMI TO THE EAST, TSURUGI WILL GO TO JANPUGUMI TO THE WEST.
FUFU, I THANK YOU FOR NOMINATING ME.
THIS WILL BE A QUITE INTERESTING MATCH.
CA...CAN THOSE TWO COME BACK ALIVE.....!!
I...IT'S AN UNBELIEVABLE MATCH.....!!
EACH OF YOU DEPART---!!
SO I WISH GOOD LUCK TO BOTH OF YOU!!

SIGN: SHUEI ENTERTAINMENT

HUH---!?



I'LL BE TAKING THAT!!
IS THAT YOUR CREST?
!?
ARE YOU SANE? DO YOU KNOW WHERE HERE IS?
NUHA !!

(TN: NOTE THE SYMBOL BEING THE CLASSIC WSJ PIRATE INSIGNIA)

DON'T MOCK US----!!
THIS BRAT ----!!
I'M NOT MOCKING.
I TOO AM BETTING MY LIFE WITH THIS MADNESS!!
GAFU!!

AS EXPECTED OF BRAWLING PROS.

I CAN'T WIN THIS SO EASILY.

I'LL BE TAKING THIS CREST

SLOWLY TURN THIS WAY
……!!
UH!?

KU!!
YOU'VE BEEN DOING IT EXTREMELY FLASHY, BOY.
BOSS OF SHUEISUMI: GOTOU GONZOU

YOU'RE A STRAY BULLET OF JANPU-GUMI.
I KNOW YOUR TRUE IDENTITY!!
STRAY BULLET... WHAT IS THAT!?
IF YOU MAKE EVEN A STEP FROM HERE, I'LL BLOW OFF YOUR HEAD.
YOU'RE QUITE SKILLED, BUT YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITH THIS AS YOUR OPPONENT.
GUKU!!
DON'T PLAY DUMB ----!!
YOU CAN'T MERELY GO BACK.

雀舞組

I'LL BE TAKING THIS, CHIEF.

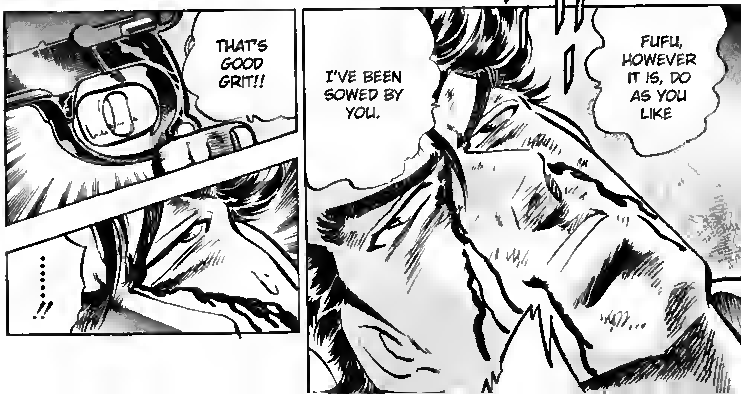
I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE.
I CAN'T BE TAKING THE MESSAGE WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE.
IT'S GOTOU OF SHUEIGUMI ---!!
DON'T SPREAD OUT THAT EXTREMELY MOCKING BEHAVIOR, JANPU--!!
HUH!?
WE'VE CAUGHT YOUR STRAY BULLET!!
IF YOU WANT HIM RETURNED, THEN GET THIRTY MILLION IN CASH AND BRING THEM HERE!!
IF YOU DON'T, WE'LL KILL HIM AND DECLARE WAR ON YOU---!!
UNDER-STAND? YOU HAVE THIRTY MINUTES!!
THAT'S YOUR LIMIT!!

!!
UNDER-
STAND,
FOOL!!
THIS GUY
HAS
MADE
FUN OF
US---!!
DIE
---!!
UGU!!

KU!!
GAGI!!
NUU !!
IT...IT SEEMS I WAS SOFT...
TH...THEY AREN'T AMATEUR AFTER ALL.

THIRTY MINUTES HAVE PASSED ALREADY.
HE'LL ONLY HAVE WAR.

YOU'RE ONE WHO HAS A COLD FATHER WHO WOULD ABANDON YOU PATHETICALLY
THIS IS DEATH TO YOU.


THAT'S GOOD GRIT!!
.....!!
I'VE BEEN SOWED BY YOU.
FUFU, HOWEVER IT IS, DO AS YOU LIKE
WAIT...

ドドドドド
ベーカリー
HE... REALLY IS A GUY I CAN DO NOTHING ABOUT.
I'M GOING NOW, IJUUIN!!
THEY'RE L..TE.
I'M WORRIED I'VE DONE A BIT TOO MUCH.....

TN:

NOW THIS...WAS A WEIRD CHAPTER, PARTICULARLY FOR THIS LATE IN THE SERIES. IN A WAY, MIYASHITA SEEMS TO GIVE BACK SOMEWHAT OF A FLASHBACK FROM SOME ASPECTS ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE FIRST CHAPTER WITH THIS, WITH MOMO HEADED STRAIGHT RIGHT INTO THE MOUTH OF SOME YAKUZA WHETHER HE WANTS TO OR NOT! (WELL THIS TIME HE HAS TO...BUT MOSTLY JUST BECAUSE KUMADA MADE THINGS WAY TOO DANGEROUS EVEN BEYOND WHAT HE FIGURED) IT SEEMS RATHER STRAIGHTFORWARD WITH HIM AND KYOUSUKIJE INVADING THE TWO OFFICES, UNTIL...WELL, THE ATTACK BY THE SHUEI TOWARDS KYOUSUKE AND MOMO'S SUDDEN ATTACK IN A WAY, SEEING MOMO GETTING HURT LIKE THIS HERE AND NOW JUST GIVES ME A FEELING FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT NOT EVEN HE IS INVINCIBLE AND CAN SMILE OFF EVERY SINGLE FORCE HE COMES ACROSS IN THE WORLD.

HECK, THIS ISN'T EVEN SOMETHING LIKE AN ORGANIZED FIGHTING TOURNAMENT WHERE MOMO CAN ANTICIPATE AND TAKE ON ANY FORCE. AS YOU SAW HERE, HE WAS STABBED MERELY TRYING TO RESPOND BACK TO THE SHUEI MOB TO GET KYOUSUKE BACK.. BY A MEMBER OF THE JANPU MOB HE WAS SUPPOSED TO GET THE CREST FROM! I KNOW SOME WOULD SAY THAT MOMO WOULD APPEAR WEAK BEING DOWN ON HIS GUARD AND ATTACKED LIKE THIS, BUT I THINK FOR ONCE HE FINALLY HAS TO EXPERIENCE THAT NOT EVERYTHING CAN BE CONTROLLED EVEN BY HIMSELF. I SORT OF HOPE HE CAN REACH KYOUSUKE SOMEHOW OR ANOTHER...BUT THAT'S FOR NEXT TIME. .OH BOY, IT'S FOR NEXT TIME...

涙の別れ・卒業式!!の巻

SIGN: LOAN CREDIT / BILL DISCOUNTS: SHUEI ENTERTAINMENT

CHP. 313: A TEARFUL FAREWELL: THE GRADUATION CEREMONY!!

涙の別れ・卒業式!!の巻

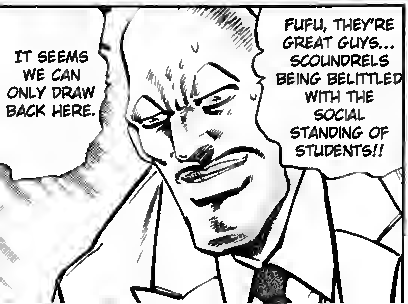
WH...WHY ARE YOU HERE.....!!
TSU... TSURUGI .....!!
IT...IT SEEMS I WAS ON TIME.
WHERE'S THE MONEY!?
WHAT ARE YOU!! A YOUNG MAN OF JANPU-GUMI!?
WHAT THE--!!
BUT I WILL GET BACK THAT MAN.
DON'T HAVE MONEY .....!!

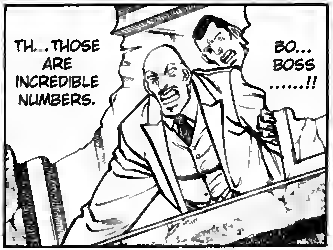
GUHA!!
ST...STOP, TSURUGI ---!!
WHY IS IT NECESSARY FOR A COMPLETE STRANGER TO ABANDON THEIR LIFE FOR ME----!!
YOU'RE NOT A STRANGER!!

TSU... TSURUGI ...!! YOU...!!
OTOKOJUKU AND RAKANJUKU!! EVEN IF OUR SCHOOLS ARE DIFFERENT, OUR WILLS ARE ONE!!
WE'RE ALLIES!!
WE CAN'T LET AN ALLY DIE WITHOUT HELPING THEM OUT!!
THESE TWO WILL BE SENT TO HELL TOGETHER ---!!
THESE BRATS ARE JOKING WITH US---!!
WH...WHO DID THAT ---!!
!!
UH!!

WH...
WHAT---!!
TH...
THEY'RE
---!!

ORA---!! RETURN MOMO AND IJUUIN---!!
OR ELSE WE'RE CARRYING AN ASSAULT ----!!
YEAH: IF ALL OF US COMBINE OUR POWERS, THERE WON'T COME TO BE EVEN A TRACE OF THAT BUILDING---!!


IT SEEMS WE CAN ONLY DRAW BACK HERE.
FUFU, THEY'RE GREAT GUYS... SCOUNDRELS BEING BELITTLED WITH THE SOCIAL STANDING OF STUDENTS!!


TH...THOSE ARE INCREDIBLE NUMBERS.
BO... BOSS .....!!

OOH, SOMEONE'S COMING OUT---!!
FU, YOU SAVED US!!
IT'S MOMO ---!!
IJUUIN IS TOGETHER WITH HIM---!!

WE CAME ANXIOUS OF WHEREVER YOU WERE ----!! WE SHOOK OFF THE RESTRAINTS OF THE PRINCIPALS!!
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT THE TWO OF YOU---!!
WELL, THOSE ARE SEVERE WOUNDS!!

FUFU, IT SEEMS WE WON'T BE APPEARING
UMU

YEAH!!
HURRY AND GET THESE WOUNDS TREATED ----!!

YES. ITS GAME AND SET. BOTH SIDES ENDED UP AS ONE WITH THE DETERMINED PURPOSE OF SAVING THEIR ALLIES

WHEN I SAW THAT, THERE WAS NO NEED IN HAVING THAT TEAM POWER MATCH THAT WAS STILL REMAINING.

FUFFU. THAT'S SAME FOR YOU, KUMADA.
YOU'VE BROUGHT UP QUITE THE STUDENTS, EDAJIMA.

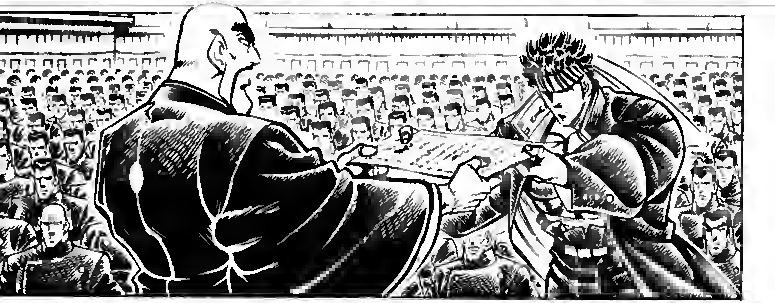
WITH THEM, I'M CERTAIN THEY SHOULD DO IT!!
THAT'S RIGHT: THEIR POTENTIAL IS INFINITE!!
FROM AMONG THEM ARE THOSE WHO WILL LEAVE THE NEST TAKING THE RUDDER IN ALL FIELDS IN THE FUTURE· CULTURE, POLITICS AND BUSINESS!!

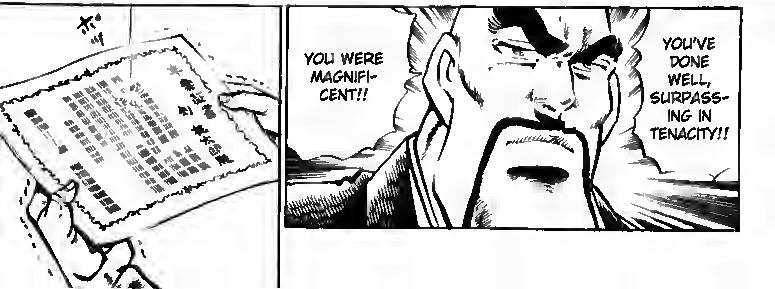
YEAH- LET'S KEEP COMPANY TO THE VERY END ----!!
WAHHAHA, AL-RIGHT, TONIGHT WE DRINK---!!

SIGN: 33RD OTOKOJUKU GRADUATION CEREMONY

REPRESENTING THE GRADUATING STUDENTS: TSURGI MOMOTAROU!!
第33回 男塾卒業式
WE ARE AWARDING YOUR GRADUATION CERTIFICATES!!
OSU !!

THE ABOVE-MENTIONED IS VERIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF OTOKOJUKU'S ENTIRE TRAINING CURRICULUM!! PRINCIPAL OF OTOKOJUKU, EDAJIMA HEIHACHI!!
GRADUATION CERTIFICATE: TSURUGI MOMOTAROU!!
THE OTHER GRADUATES HAVE THE FOLLOWING SAME CONTENT!!




YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT!!
YOU'VE DONE WELL, SURPASSING IN TENACITY!!

OSU! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!
WH...WHY ARE THERE TEARS COMING OUT LIKE THIS .....!?
WH.. WHAT .....!?
I...I'VE WANTED TO QUICKLY RUN AWAY FROM HERE EVEN FOR A DAY AND YET...!!
TH..THIS WAS A SCHOOL LIKE HELL WITH HARSH TRAINING EVERY DAY .....!!

IT ALL SEEMED LIKE IT WAS YES-TERDAY...
十六戦士 万っ!!
勝負 始めい!!
フレー 桃一っ!!
一騎大四凶殺」 勇士前へ!!

A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL!
THIS IS MY FINAL FAREWELL GIFT TO ALL OF YOU!!

I AM THE PRINCIPAL OF OTOKOJUKU, EDAJIMA HEIHACHI!!
THE END!!

六年余月
長い間声援ありがとう
男塾
男塾よ
永遠なれ!!
宮下あきら
& LIKE A ROLLING STONE
嶋田幸宏　猪野　薫
野村繁裕　安田　実
スタジオ
WILD THING
完
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS LONG
TIME OF SIX YEARS AND REMAINING
MONTHS. OTOKOJUKU, BE ETERNAL!!
-MIYASHITA AKIRA
1991.7.22

TN:

I WILL BE DOING "YABAI YATSURA" BUT DOING SO SEPARATELY FROM THE OTOKOJUKU RUN EVEN IF IT'S IN THE FINAL VOLUME. IT WILL BE A ONE-SHOT BUT KEPT WITH OTOKOJUKU'S SCRIPTS SO I WON'T CONFUSE ANYONE AND SO IT WILL BE HOPEFULLY DONE WITH THE FINAL OTOKOJUKU VOLUME WHEN IT IS COMPLETED. I PROBABLY SHOULD BE DOING THE ASSISTANT'S COMMENTS BUT THAT IS PROBABLY UP TO WHOEVER IS SCANS-LATING THIS WITH ME. IF THEY WANT ME TO DO IT, I WILL AND WILL KEEP THEM AROUND. BUT FOR THE MOMENT I'LL JUST LEAVE IT AT THE FINAL OTOKOJUKU SCRIPT AND MIYASHITA'S FINAL WORDS AT THE END OF THE VOLUME.

WELL...IT'S REALLY TOUGH FOR ME TO IMAGINE THIS DAY WOULD FINALLY COME...BUT IT'S COME. IT JUST FELT LIKE YESTERDAY THAT WE BEGAN THE JOURNEY INTO THE BRUTAL ACADEMY WHERE PRE-WAR IDEALS AND CONCEPTS WERE DRILLED PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY INTO THE FORGOTTEN STUDENTS OF SOCIETY IN ORDER TO CHANGE THEM INTO THE MEN WHO WOULD LEAD JAPAN INTO THE FUTURE. IT'S BEEN A LONG JOURNEY, BEGUN WITH A RAGTAG GROUP OF WEIRDOES WE'VE ALL COME TO GROW TO LOVE: A COOL, SMART AND STRONG LEADER WITH HIS TRADEMARK HEADBAND AND SWORD, THE SUPER-GUTSY BUT SOMEWHAT IN-OVER-HIS-HEAD COMIC RELIEF WHO ALWAYS FINDS A WAY OF NEARLY GETTING KILLED WITH HIS TRUSTY HAT AND DOSU BY HIS SIDE, THE CHEERFUL BUT SOMEWHAT DIMWITTED IDIOT WITH THE SAZAE-SAN HAIR-STYLE AND THE NERD WHO WASN'T QUITE A NERD..SINCE HE WAS SMART BUT NOT IN THE RIGHT WAYS, NOT TO MENTION THE LITTLE GUY WHO WAS FORCED INTO THE SCHOOL AFTER BULLYING HIS WAY IN AT FIRST TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST LOYAL AND MOST DETERMINED STUDENTS WHO CARRIED THE SCHOOL'S COAT OF ARMS IN CLIMACTIC SITUATIONS. AND LET'S NOT MENTION THE TEACHERS, INCLUDING THE HARSH BUT MOTHERLY BEARDED MAN, THE IDIOT WHO MARCHED HIS OWN STUDENTS RIGHT UP TO THE DOORSTEP OF HIS OWN FAMILY...AND THAT HELMET GUY IN GLASSES I NEVER COULD REMEMBER THE NAME OF. AND OF COURSE THEIR LEADER. FORMER SOLDIER, FORMER KENPOU STUDENT, POSSIBLY ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL AND DESTRUCTIVE MEN ON EARTH...BUT TO HIM, ALL THAT MATTERED WAS THAT HE WAS THE "PRINCIPAL OF OTOKOJUKU". .AND IF YOU DON'T GET THAT, YOU WILL HEAR IT SO LOUDLY THAT YOUR EARS WILL EXPLODE ON CONTACT!

YET AS WE CONTINUED THROUGH THE JOURNEY, WE BEGAN TO ENCOUNTER OTHERS WHO GAVE THIS WORLD AS MUCH DELIGHT AND FREAKINESS AS CAN EVER BE SEEN. FIRST THE TRUE LEADER OF SECOND-YEARS AND HIS SUPER-LONG, SUPER DESTRUCTIVE SWORD, THEN A SHOCKING SQUADRON OF AMERICANS LET INTO THIS HYPER-NATIONALISTIC SCHOOL LEAD BY A SUPER-POWERFUL BOXER WHOSE PUNCHES ULTIMATELY BROKE THE SOUND BARRIER AND WHO WANTED TO DISCOVER "THE MADNESS" THIS SCHOOL DERSISTED OF. THEN CAME THE INVASION FROM AN UNLIKELY SOURCE. A SUDER-POWERFUL STAFF-WIELDER WHO WISHED TO CONQUER THE SCHOOL HE ONCE CONSIDERED HIMSELF TOO STRONG TO STAY AT EVEN WITH HIS TENDER MORALS. THE SCHOOL GAINED AN ALLY IN THE FORMS OF A CRAZY WILD-MAN WHO BECAME MORE NOTABLE FOR HIS OUTBURSTS THAN SOME OF HIS LATER BATTLE PERFORMANCES BEFORE HEADING OFF ON A FOUR-ON-FOUR MATCH AGAINST THE STAFF WARRIOR AND HIS THREE MOST LOYAL AND POWERFUL FIGHTERS: AN "OLD-MAN-LIKE" FIGHTER WHO MASTERED ONE OF THE MOST ANCIENT KENPOU ;>AND WHO WOULD MORE BE KNOWN FOR FIGHTING AGAINST AND ALONGSIDE A TRIO OF CRAZY MONKEYS;-, A PRETTY-BOY WHOSE MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE WAS JUST AS VAST AS HIS SKILL WITH DEADLY NEEDLES, AND A SILENT, BUT POWERFUL BLIND WARRIOR WHO WOULD COME TO BE MORE WELL KNOWN WITH HIS SKILLS WITH A STICK.

YET EVEN AS THE INVADERS WERE FINALLY STOPPED, THE NEXT THREAT CAME FROM WITHIN, BY WAY OF THE UPPERCLASSMEN WHO WOULD PUSH THEM BEYOND ANYTHING THEY HAD FACED UP TO THEN. THE FIRST-YEARS SIEGED UPON THEIR SECRETIVE HEADQUARTERS, FACING OFF AGAINST A GIANT WITH A NOBLE HEART, A SADISTIC MAN OF THE DARKNESS, AND A DANDY GENTLEMAN WHO WOULD LATER BE MORE KNOWN FOR HIS SLEIGHT OF HAND AS HIS BUGGY WHIP. ONE OF THE FIRST YEARS ATTEMPTED TO CONFRONT HIS PAST AGAINST THE MASSIVE LEADER (WHO WAS NOT AS BIG AS HE ORIGINALLY LET ON), BUT THE PRINCIPAL CHOSE TO MAKE THEM FACE OFF AGAINST ONE ANOTHER WITH A SPECIALLY SET-UP TOURNAMENT ON A SUPER-LONG ARENA GUIDED BY A MYSTERIOUS CHINESE MAN SKILLED IN GREAT MEDICINAL ARTS AND STRANGE OLD WAYS AND WHERE THEY WOULD BE ASSISTED BY THEIR FORMER ENEMIES OF THEIR PREVIOUS BATTLE. ON THE ROAD TO THE END, THEY FACED OFF AGAINST SEVERAL OLD ENEMIES AS WELL AS THE ELITE CORP OF THE UPPERCLASSMEN, INCLUDING A TOUGH MASKED MAN WITH A TRAGIC PAST, A PRETTY-BOY MANIPULATOR OF WIRES AND TOPS, A BIZARRE MAN WHOSE FIGHTING STYLE MANIPULATED HIS OWN FINGERS, AND THE POWERFUL LEADER AND MASTER OF THE SKILLS OF THE DEADLY POISON FIST. IN THE END, IT CAME DOWN TO LEADER AND LEADER, WHERE THE UPPERCLASSMAN LEADER SHOWED HIS POWERS IN MANIPULATING WIND AND APPEARING TO BLOW AWAY HIS OPPONENT'S SKILLS. BUT WITH ALL STUDENTS ON BOTH GRADES ON THE LINE, THE YOUNGER LEADER OF THE FIRST-YEARS WON OUT IN FINAL VICTORY IN A BATTLE MORE FOR DISRUPTING ORDER THAN FOR ANYTHING REALLY NOTABLE

UNFORTUNATELY, LITTLE REST WOULD COME DUE TO THE ARRIVAL OF AN INVITATION TO A TOURNAMENT RUN BY JAPAN'S GREATEST TRAITOR AND MOST POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL MAN, THE MAN IN CHARGE OF THE UNDERWORLD OF THE ENTIRE NATION. WITH ALL COMING TOGETHER UNDER THE BANNER OF THE SCHOOL, THEY MARCHED FORWARDS WITH ONE PURPOSE IN MIND: WIN THE TOURNEY SO THEY COULD DEFEAT THE TRAITOR AND GET BACK FOR YEARS OF MISERY THE PRINCIPAL HAD DEALT WITH DUE TO IT. THE BATTLES THEMSELVES TURNED OUT TO DRAW FORTH FROM WARRIORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND OF ANY AND ALL STYLES OF COMBAT JUST TO GET THROUGH IT. IN THE PRELIMINARIES, THEY FACED A TEAM OF PUNKS, A NOTABLE KENPOU SQUADRON, A GROUP OF WARRIORS WHO DESCENDED FROM THE GREAT FIGHTERS OF GREECE AND ROME, AND A TEAM OF MONKS WHO HONED THEIR SKILLS IN THE HIGHEST MOUNTAINS IN THE WORLD. OVERCOMING THEM, THEY MOVED FORWARDS TO THE MAIN TOURNAMENT, WHERE THE BATTLES AND EVEN THE BATTLE SCENES BECAME HOTTER AND STRANGER BY THE MOMENT. THEY FACED OFF AGAINST A SQUADRON OF THE DEADLIEST ASSASSINS FROM CHINA; THEN SOME OF THE MOST ANCIENT OPPONENTS BASED AROUND THE GUARDIANS OF ANCIENT EGYPT. IN THE SEMI-FINALS, THEY TOOK ON A SUPER-POWERFUL SQUADRON OF CHINESE WARRIORS WHO HAD WON THE TOURNAMENT THREE TIMES IN A ROW PRIOR TO THEIR PARTICIPATION. AND THEN IN THE FINALS, THE TOURNAMENT CAME TO BE BETWEEN THEM AND A SQUAD OF THE MOST POWERFUL WARRIORS TRAINED BY THE TRAITOR HIMSELF, USING THE MOST MODERN OF TECHNIQUES AND SCIENCE TO FORGE THE ULTIMATE FIGHTING FORCE, LEAD BY THE LOYAL, SUPER-POWERFUL "SON" OF THE LEADER OF THE MATCH. ULTIMATELY THOUGH THE SCHOOL PREVAILED AND THE EVIL TRAITOR WAS FINALLY BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AT THE END OF A BLADE.

WITH THE TOURNAMENT BEHIND THEM, THE STUDENTS FINALLY LOOKED FORWARDS TO THEIR NEXT YEAR OF EDUCATION, WHERE THEY WERE FORCED TO FACE THE SUDDEN ATTACK OF TWO SURPRISES. ONE WAS THE ARRIVAL OF A FEARLESS MOTORCYCLE-RIDING HEAD OF THE FIRST-YEARS, AND THE OTHER... WAS THE ABDUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL! WITH A FAMILIAR FRIEND TAKING THE LEAD OF THE SCHOOL AND SEVERAL OF THE MOST NOTABLE FIGHTERS OF THE FORMER TOURNAMENT JOINING THEM, THEY HEADED OFF TO FACE A MYSTERIOUS GROUP OF ASSASSINS STATIONED AROUND THE WORLD WHO WERE BROUGHT IN TO FIGHT FOR PRIDE OR FOR THE PROFITS OF THEIR BACKERS. BUT IT WAS ALL A FRONT AS A REVENGE TRAP FOR THEIR FORMER ENEMY, WHO ATTEMPTED TO ENSNARE THEM AND TAKE DOWN THEIR BELOVED PRINCIPAL! BUT EVEN WITH SEVERAL NOTABLE CASUALITIES, THEY SURVIVED LONG ENOUGH FOR THE PRINCIPAL TO MAKE A GLORIOUS RETURN AND LITERALLY BRING DOWN THE HOUSE AROUND THEIR ENEMIES!

AND NOW, AFTER A SHORT BUT SWEET CONFRONTATION WITH A RIVAL SCHOOL OF SIMILAR PRINCIPLES (AND SIMILAR PRINCIPALS), THE JOURNEY OF MEN HAS FINALLY REACHED ITS FINAL STATION. WE'VE SEEN AND EXPERIENCED A LOT ON THIS JOURNEY, FROM OIL BATHS TO KILLER ROBOTS, FROM BATTLES TO PAINT A SYMBOL ON HEADS TO ALL SORTS OF CRAZY AND BIZARRE BATTLES IN EVERY WAY, SHAPE AND FORM. AND YEAH... WHEN I SAY CRAZY BATTLES AND BATTLE STYLES, THEN I MEAN IT, GOING FROM CONVENTIONAL KENPOU, SWORDSMANSHIP, SPEARMANSHIP, BOXING SKILLS AND JUST USING A DOSU AND GUTS, THE BATTLES CAME TO UTILIZE EVERYTHING INCLUDING TOPS, BOOMERANGS, UNICYCLES, SOCCER, TENNIS, SNOWBOARDING, VARIOUS TYPES OF DRUGS AND HALLUCINOGENS AND POISONS, SPRINGS, STILTS, BIZARRE PHYSICAL MANIPULATIONS OF EVERY AND ALL TYPES OF BODY PARTS (INCLUDING... DOWN THERE), BAT COSTUMES, MAGNETISM, STRANGE COSTUMES AND MASKS, GOLF, MARKSMANSHIP, SPINNING POLES, POGO STICKS... AND THEN THERE WERE ALL THE VARIOUS ANIMALS: HORSES, MONKEYS, BATS, BEES, AN ELEPHANT, ANTS, FIREFLIES, A SPIDER, CROCODILES... AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE I'M LEAVING OUT OR FORGETTING! AND THE BEST PART: THEY ALL COULD SOMEHOW OR ANOTHER BE EXPLAINED BY SOME STRANGE BOOK ENTRY THAT SHOWED ITS HISTORY WITHIN COMBAT, GENERALLY BEING INVENTED BY SOMEONE IN CHINA LONG AGO AND ADAPTED INTO MODERN TIMES. ALL IN ALL, YOU PROBABLY COULD IMAGINE EVERYTHING WE'VE WITNESSED AS UNBELIEVABLE OR UNIMAGINABLE. BUT THEN... THAT'S THE WORLD OF OTOKOJUKU TO A TEE. IF YOU DON'T THINK IT'S POSSIBLE, THEY FIND A WAY TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE. JUST BECAUSE IT'S ENTERTAINING OR FUNNY OR JUST BIZARRE BUT WITH THE TOUCHING AND SENTIMENTAL MOMENTS TO BRING IN THE EMOTIONS.

NOW THAT WE HAVE REACHED THIS ACTUAL POINT OF CONCLUSION, I USUALLY HAVE A MAIN QUESTION OR THOUGHT REGARDING THE SERIES I HAVE JUST COMPLETED. FOR OTOKOJUKU, THE QUESTION PRETTY MUCH REMAINS THE SAME NOW AS IT DID WHEN I STARTED THE SERIES WAY BACK OVER 18-19 MONTHS AGO: WHY WAS THIS SERIES NEARLY LOST AND FORGOTTEN? THE QUESTION MORE OR LESS IS LESS ABOUT THE JAPANESE PUBLIC REACTION AND MORE FOR IT'S OWN EXISTENCE WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AND HOW IT WASN'T EVEN TOO WELL KNOWN UNTIL RECENTLY. THE SERIES WAS A MAJOR SUCCESS IN JAPAN, LASTING OVER 6 YEARS AND GETTING QUITE MUCH NOTABILITY IN JAPANESE CULTURE EVEN NOW. MAYBE NOT TO THE EXTENT OF SOME OF IT'S OTHER CONTEMPORARIES LIKE HOKUTO NO KEN OR DRAGONBALL BUT TO THE POINT THAT THE STORIES STILL SEEM MEMORABLE AND MANY WEBSITES CATALOG EVERY SINGLE MINMEI PUBLISHING ENTRY FOR SAFE REFERENCE. BUT MANY PEOPLE DIDN'T REALLY RECOGNIZE OR UNDERSTAND EVEN THE EXISTENCE OF MOMOTAROU OR EDAJIMA WHEN THEY FIRST POPPED INTO JUMP ULTIMATE STARS TO FIGHT AGAINST THE LIKES OF GOKU, LUFFY AND NARUTO OVER HERE. HECK, MYSELF INCLUDED! HAVING KNOWN MANY OF THE AT LEAST BASIC CONCEPTS AND IDEAS OF SO MANY JUMP SERIES, SEEING A CHARACTER LIKE EDAJIMA BEING SUCH A POWERFUL FORCE IN THE GAME ALONGSIDE THE 'INSTANT POWERS' LIKE RAOH JUST SEEMED INSANE FOR A SERIES THAT WAS SO LITTLE KNOWN. LIKEWISE, WHEN I DID SEE THE OTOKOJUKU REFERENCES IN BO-BOBO, WHICH WAS MY BRIDGE TO MANY SERIES OF THIS ERA, THEY JUST FELT SO RANDOM COMPARED TO NOW, WHEN THEY JUST SEEM TO ILLUMINATE SAWAI'S LOVE AND RESPECT OF THIS CLASSIC JUMP SERIES

AND IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, OTOKOJUKU CONTINUES TO INFLUENCE AND SHOW IT'S ECHO WITHIN JUMP AND JAPANESE FIGHTING MANGA. IN MY EYES, THE SERIES AWAKENED AND OPENED UP A NEW IDEA OF ORIGINALITY IN FIGHTING SERIES THAT HAS ONLY EXPANDED EXPONENTIALLY SINCE THEN. IN SO MANY WAYS, SHAPES AND FORMS. I STILL SAY THAT A LOT OF THE "NINJA" STYLES IN NARUTO REFLECT ASPECTS OF OTOKO'S FIGHTING STYLES, IN PARTICULAR HIEN'S USAGE OF SENBON FOR MEDICINAL PRESSURE-POINT COMBAT. HECK, I STILL USE THE "STREET FIGHTER II" EXAMPLE I GAVE BEFORE FROM WHAT WE SAW IN THE CLIMAX OF THE FINAL DAIBUKAI FIGHT' ONCE YOU ELIMINATE HALF OF THE CHARACTERS EITHER WHO WERE ALREADY IN THE FRANCHISE (RYU, KEN, SAGAT, PROBABLY BALROG) OR OBVIOUSLY WOULDN'T SHOW AN INFLUENCE FROM IT (CHUN-LI, M. BISON), WHAT DO YOU HAVE FROM THE OTHER SIX? AN AMERICAN MILITARY MAN WHO THROWS SONIC BOOMS (J), A SUMO WRESTLER (TORAMARU, KYRGYZ KHAN), A GUY WHO CAN MANIPULATE ELECTRICITY FROM HIS BODY (RED THUNDER . THOUGH MAYBE YOU CAN USE HIM FOR T HAWK TOO BUT I'M TALKING OF THE ORIGINAL. NOT SUPER SSII), A WILD RUSSIAN (GOBARSKI... YEAH THAT WAS A STRETCH), A YOGA-MANIPULATING POWERHOUSE (RAJA MAHAL) AND A VAIN PRETTY BOY WHO USES A CLAW (HIEN... WELL, MORE "EVIL HIEN FROM THE KYOUSATSU"). I KNOW THAT MANY OF THESE ARE MORE SPECULATION THAN FACT, BUT THE MERE FACTOR THAT THE DAIBUKAI ARC WAS DONE AROUND THE TIME SFII WAS IN DEVELOPMENT (AND IT DID RELEASE IN '91, WHICH MEANS THERE WAS TIME BETWEEN THE CHAPTERS AND CAPCOM COMING OUT WITH THE GAME) AND SO MANY OF THE ABILITIES IN THAT GAME JUST ECHO OTOKOJUKU... HECK, WITH SF ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE FRANCHISES IN VIDEO GAME HISTORY, THEY NEED TO GIVE MIYASHITA A BIT OF THEIR FORTUNE.

BUT BACK TO THE TOPIC: WHY WAS THE SERIES HIDDEN AWAY BEYOND IT'S HOMELAND FOR SO LONG? COULD IT HAVE BEEN DUE TO THE BASIC CONCEPT OF THE SERIES. THE WHOLE "PRE-WWII TRAINING FACILITY" THAT MOLDS MEN THROUGH MEANS AKIN TO THOSE INGRAINING NATIONAL LOYALTY TO DIE FOR THE EMPEROR AND FOR THE COUNTRY? THAT... PROBABLY COULD HAVE A LOT TO DO WITH IT... BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT REALLY DIDN'T FACTOR INTO THE SERIES BEYOND THE FIRST FEW VOLUMES. SURE IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR MANY OF THE JOKES THAT OCCURRED IN VOLUME 1 AND WHEN THE AMERICANS SHOWED UP AT THE SCHOOL, BUT BEYOND THAT IT REALLY WASN'T TOO IMPORTANT TO THE STORY PROBABLY DUE TO IT BECOMING MORE FIGHT-BASED FURTHER. THE FINAL VOLUME SEEMED TO MORE EMPHASIZE THAT THE LOYALTY THAT WAS GIVEN TO THE STUDENTS WASN'T TO THE EMPEROR OR FOR "JAPAN" LIKE THE OLD DAYS BUT TO EACH OTHER AND TO THEIR PRINCIPAL. THAT PROBABLY IS ONE OF THE GOOD THINGS TO COME OUT OF BEING AN OTOKOJUKU STUDENT CONSIDERING THAT EDAJIMA IS... WELL, AS GRUMPY AS HE IS, HE STILL IS A CARING AND CONSIDERATE MAN WHO UNDERSTANDS THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF HIS STUDENTS AND KNOWS BETTER ABOUT THEM THAN EVEN THEY REALIZE. WE SAW THIS A LOT IN THIS VOLUME, BUT WE ALSO SAW IT IN THINGS SUCH AS HIS JUDGEMENT FOR THE CLIMAX OF THE PAAREN SEIHA OR FOR HIS USAGE OF BIKEI TO ASSIST IN THE SHADOWS OF THE DAIBUKAI. HECK HE EVEN KNOWS WHEN THINGS GO TOO FAR AND BARGES IN TO CLEAN IT UP, WHETHER IT IS SAVING STUDENTS CAPTURED FOR SELLING LOINCLOTHS OR DESTROYING A MASSIVE AMOUNT OF TOUDOU'S PROPERTY TO TAKE HIM DOWN PERSONALLY! AS CRAZY AS EDAJIMA CAN BE, HE KNOWS WHAT'S RIGHT AND WHAT'S BEST FOR THE SCHOOL AND FOR IT'S REPUTATION. EVEN IF SOMETIMES HIS OWN STAFF GOES A BIT TOO FAR WITH IT. BUT I GUESS I'M DEVIATING AGAIN SO LET ME LEAVE IT AT THIS: IT'S GOOD THAT EDAJIMA IS A GOOD ENOUGH MAN TO BE LOYAL AND TRUST IN... BECAUSE SOME OF THIS REALLY WOULD HAVE BEEN SCARY OR DANGEROUS IF THESE STUDENTS WERE UNDER THE TUTELAGE OF SOMEONE ELSE... OR WERE ACTUALLY LIVING IN THE TIMES HE GREW UP IN. I THINK MIYASHITA WAS TRYING TO PROVE WITH THIS SCHOOL AND WITH THE SERIES THAT THERE ISN'T ANYTHING WRONG WITH LOYALTY OR SCHOOL SPIRIT, BUT IT'S USUALLY DANGEROUS IF PLACED IN THE WRONG HANDS OR USED FOR A MEANS BEYOND THAT WHICH CAN HINDER AS WELL AS HELP. BUT ULTIMATELY THE WHOLE ASPECT STILL REMAINS CONTROVERSIAL EVEN IF IT WAS SATIRIZED TREMENDOUSLY IN THE SERIES AND IT COULD BE A REASON WHY IT WAS FORGOTTEN LIKE THAT.

THOUGH WHILE THAT COULD BE ONE REASON WHY IT WAS FORGOTTEN, I THINK SOMEHOW THERE WAS JUST ANOTHER REASON AS TO WHY THE SERIES ENDED UP WHY IT DID NEARLY LOST TO US: TIMING. LIKE TELLING A JOKE, TIMING IS EVERYTHING IN REGARDS TO WHEN OR HOW A SERIES HITS IT AND HOW IT ULTIMATELY IS SEEN OR PERCEIVED BY THE PUBLIC AT LARGE WHO CAN READ IT OR WATCH IT'S ANIME. PART OF THE TIMING BLAME PROBABLY COULD GO JUST IN WHEN THE SERIES WAS IN JUMP IN THE FIRST PLACE. WHEN IT STARTED IN 1985, OTOKOJUKU WAS JUST ANOTHER "MANLY MAN" MANGA AMONG MANY IN THE MAGAZINE WITH HOKUTO NO KEN LEADING THE WAY AS THE BIGGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT OF THE GENRE. BY THE TIME IT ENDED IN 1991, THE MAGAZINE WASN'T ANYTHING LIKE THAT ANY MORE. DRAGONBALL WAS LEADING THE MAGAZINE, MOST OF THE MANGA OF IT'S TYPE WERE GONE AND EVEN THERE WERE SERIES LIKE JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE WHICH HAD ALREADY EVOLVED COMPLETELY FROM A SERIES SIMILAR TO THIS TO ONE WITH CRAZY SUPERHEROICS AND ARAKI'S UNIQUE ART STYLE. A SERIES ABOUT MEN FIGHTING WITH BIZARRE MEANS JUST WASN'T GOING TO BRING THEM IN ANY MORE AND, ASIDE THOSE WITH NOSTALGIA FOR IT, IT WASN'T REALLY GOING TO BE SOMETHING TO REALLY BE READ ALONGSIDE WHAT WAS NOW POPULAR BY THIS POINT IN THE EARLY 1990S. THUS WITH IT SINKING AWAY FROM VIEW, IT DID SO JUST BEFORE THE MAJOR PUSH OF ANIME AND JAPANESE CULTURE OUTSIDE JAPAN IN PLACES LIKE THE US. WHICH SAW JUMP AND MOST OF THE STUFF THAT IT HAD AT THAT POINT. BUT NOT TOO MUCH WHAT IT HAD IN IT'S PAST. SURE HOKUTO WAS REMEMBERED, BUT THAT WAS A STRANGE SCENARIO THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR IT'S SUCCESS REGARDLESS WITH HOW IMPORTANT AND INFLUENCIAL IT WAS. FOR A SERIES LIKE OTOKOJUKU, IT MISSED THAT OPENING AND DIDN'T HAVE THE SPECIAL STUFF THAT ALLOWED SERIES SUCH AS DB, CAPTAIN TSUBASA AND SAINT SEIYA TO BE PICKED UP AND EXPORTED AROUND THE WORLD. WHILE IT WAS SORT OF A LOST ODDITY.

MAYBE IF THERE WAS STILL AN INTEREST IN THOSE TYPES OF SERIES... OR MAYBE IF THERE WERE SOMEONE WHO ACTUALLY UNDERSTOOD THE HISTORY OR SAW THE POTENTIAL IN IT SOONER... THEN MAYBE OTOKOJUKU WOULD HAVE EMERGED SOONER THAN IT DID AND BEEN MORE KNOWN BY THE TIME JUS HAD MOMO AND EDAJIMA AS PLAYABLE. BUT...MOST OF THIS IS PROBABLY JUST MY OWN THEORIES AND NOT REALY THE BEST TO REGARD OR THINK ABOUT WHEN LOOKING AT HOW A SERIES CAN GET LOST IN THE ANNALS OF HISTORY.

I THINK THERE ARE PROBABLY SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE SNOOZING IN THE BACK SO I THINK IT'S FINALLY TIME TO GO OVER THE LAST CHAPTER AND SEE HOW WELL MIYASHITA WRAPPED IT UP. AND THE VERDICT IS...HE DID REAL WELL...WELL, THE LAST FEW PAGES ANYWAY. THE WHOLE GRADUATION SEQUENCE WAS FLAWLESS, SHOWING MANY OF THE CHARACTERS WE'VE COME TO LOVE OVER THE RUN OF THE ENTIRE SERIES TOGETHER ONE LAST TIME TO GET THEIR DIPLOMA AND HEAR ONE MORE SPEECH FROM EDAJIMA (WHICH IS LIKE EVERY OTHER SPEECH HE'S GIVEN THEM) I SORT OF WISHED MAYBE WE COULD HAVE HAD A FEW OTHER LITTLE THINGS TO MAYBE SHOW HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED OR IN MEMORY OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN THROUGH. A SPEECH BY ONIHIGE, MAYBE A LINE OR TWO BY DATE OR ONE OF THE NEWER STUDENTS, MAYBE ANOTHER CAMEO BY THE SHITENNOU TO SHOW THEM CONTINUING TO WATCH OVER THE SCHOOL... UNLESS THEY ALREADY GRADUATED CONSIDERING IT IS A BIT OF A TIME SKIP. BUT AS PERFECT AS THE FINAL SCENES OF THE SERIES WERE. THE FIRST PART WRAPPING UP THE PRESENCE MATCH DID FEEL A TAD ABRUPT BUT SOMEWHAT APPROPRIATE FOR THE SERIES AS IT'S BEEN. IT FEELS LIKE MIYASHITA WANTED A BIT MORE TIME BUT, LIKE THE SEVEN TUSKS, WAS FORCED TO RUSH TO THE END JUST TO GET IT OUT OF THE MAGAZINE. I REALLY DID LIKE A FEW OF THE ASPECTS IN IT THOUGH, PARTICULARLY THE UNITING OF OTOKOJUKU AND RAKANJUKU IN STOPPING THE SHUEIGUM! FROM KILLING THEM AND THE FINAL SATISFIED COMPROMISE OF EDAJIMA AND KUMADA THAT THE SCHOOLS ARE FOR THE MOST PART EQUAL JUST LIKE THEIR OWN SILLY RIVALRY. ULTIMATELY, WHILE IT WASN'T AS LONG AS SOME OF THE OTHER STORIES, I REALLY DID FEEL LIKE MIYASHITA WAS ABLE TO GET BACK TO WHAT HE LIKED OR WAS GOOD AT WITH THE RAKANJUKU ARC IN THE FINAL VOLUME, SORT OF BRINGING THE SERIES BACK TO BASICS INSTEAD OF FORCING MORE BATTLES ON US LIKE THE SEVEN TUSKS SEEMED TO DO. AND THE WHOLE "TEAM SPIRIT" ASPECT THE FINAL ONE WOULD HAVE DONE DID SEEM TO WORK OUT ANYWAY WITH THE WAY THE STUDENTS CAME TOGETHER. THEY WERE ONE TEAM FACING OFF AGAINST THE MOB TO GET THEIR LEADERS BACK. FOR MOMO, WHO HAS BEEN SO INVINCIBLE AND UNTOUCHABLE, IT FINALLY SHOWS A BIT MORE HUMILITY THAN HE USUALLY HAS AND ALLOWED TO SHOW THAT NOT EVEN SOMEONE LIKE HIM IS PERFECT AND NEEDS HIS SCHOOLMATES TO ASSIST IF HE HAS A PROBLEM. (WHICH IS SO FEW TIMES SINCE MOMO SEEMS TO BE INVINCIBLE MOST OF THE TIME. BUT THEN HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT KYOUSUKE SO IT THREW HIM OFF GUARD)

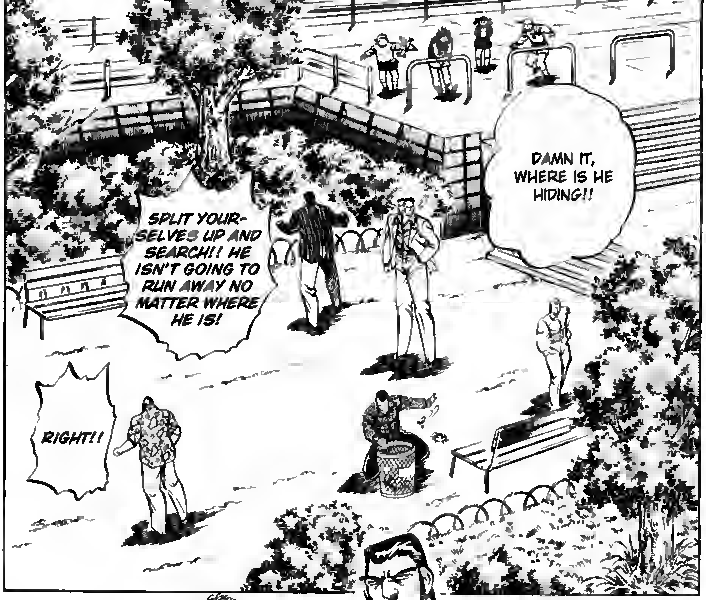
SO, AS THE SUN SINKS SLOWLY IN THE WEST, WE SAY GOODBYE TO "SAKIGAKE! OTOKOJUKU!" FOR THE LAST TIME. I'VE BEEN REALLY GLAD TO BRING THIS SERIES TO YOU IN PARTICULAR BECAUSE IT'S BEEN SOMEWHAT OF A MILESTONE ONE FOR ME. THIS SERIES IS THE FIRST SUPER-LONG JUMP SERIES THAT I'VE TRANSLATED FROM START-TO-FINISH, WITH NO ONE ELSE HAVING TOUCHED ANY OTHER CHAPTERS BUT MYSELF. PRIOR TO OTOKOJUKU, ALL OF THE SERIES I'VE DONE HAVE EITHER BEEN ONES THAT I WANTED TO GET "COMPLETED AND OUT THERE" (BO-BOBO, KINNIKUMAN) OR SHORT SERIES THAT I DID START-TO-FINISHED BUT NOT LONG ENOUGH TO REALLY SNOW ANY EFFECT. (CYBORG GRANDPA G) OTOKOJUKU HAD NEVER BEEN TOUCHED BEFORE, HAD ALL SIX+ YEARS TRANSLATED BY ONLY ME, AND...WAS SORT OF A FUN TIME CONSIDERING IT WAS A SERIES I JUST HAD TO TRANSLATE WHEN I CAME ACROSS IT. I GAVE YOU ALL MY REASONS ORIGINALLY BEFORE IN WHY I WANTED TO DO IT, BUT I DO HAVE TO SAY THIS: FOR A SERIES WHERE I LITERALLY WAS STARTING FROM NOTHING WITH LITTLE TO NO SUPPORT AND A LOT OF FORGOTTEN OR BEWILDERED LOOKS AS TO WHY I'D DO IT...I'M HAPPY THAT I GOT AS MUCH AS I DID ALL THE WAY FOR THE ENTIRE RUN. SURE I'VE HAD A LOT OF PROBLEMS WITH IT AND KNOW THAT THERE HAD BEEN A LOT OF TROUBLE AND SITUATIONS CAUSED BY IT, BUT I WANTED TO BRING A PORTION OF JUMP HISTORY TO THE FOREFRONT AND THINK I DID A GOOD JOB IN DOING SO. OTOKOJUKU! IS NOW OUT THERE, IT SOMEHOW INSPIRED THE ENTIRE ANIME VERSION TO BE PICKED UP AND COMPLETED, AND I'VE SEEN SUPPORT FOR IT EVEN AS SURPRISING A PLACE AS A NARUTO BOARD WHERE IT WAS LINKED TO ON A SIGNATURE! FOR A SERIES THAT STARTED FROM NOTHINGN AND THAT I HAD TO REALLY DIG AROUND TO EVEN GET MY HANDS ON GETTING TO ALL OF YOU, I'M GLAD I BROUGHT SOME ATTENTION AND GAVE IT A LITTLE NUDGE IN THE DIRECTION OF RESTORING OR GAINING THE NOTABILITY IT DESERVED. AS FOR THE FUTURE...WELL I DO WANT TO EVENTUALLY GET TO "TENKA MUSOU: EDAJIMA HEIHACHI-DEN", WHICH SORT OF GIVES US MORE BACKSTORY FOR THE PRINCIPAL, BUT THAT'S SORT OF A LONG WAY OFF IN MY IMAGINATION BEFORE I GET TO IT. SAME SORT OF GOES TO "AKATSUKI! OTOKOJUKU!"...BUT THAT I SORT OF WISHED THERE WAS A FULL-SERIES RUN SOMEWHERE SO I CAN JUST DIVE RIGHT IN WHEN I'M READY. (THERE ARE A FEW OTHERS LIKE "TEN YORI TAKAKU" OR A SHORT SERIES THE SANMENKEN CAMEO IN BUT THOSE I KNOW LESS ABOUT FOR THE MOMENT) THANKS FOR READING THIS SERIES AND, UNTIL WE CROSS PATHS AGAIN, THIS IS STRANGERATARU STATING

わし が男塾読者ストレーンジャアタルである！！ (WELL IT HAD TO BE SAID)

MATA NE.

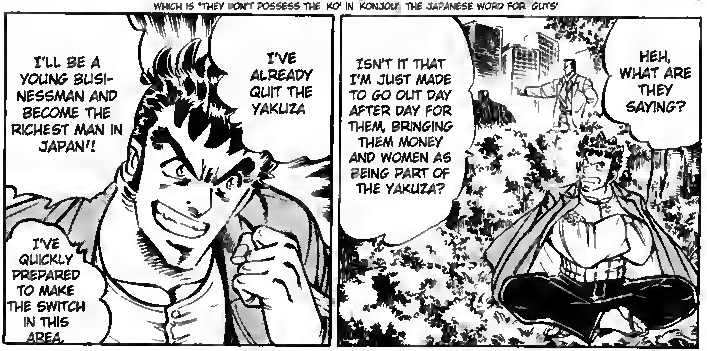
[特別読切]
SPECIAL ONE-SHOT:
YABAI YATSURA
(THE DANGEROUS GUYS)
ヤバい YATSURA

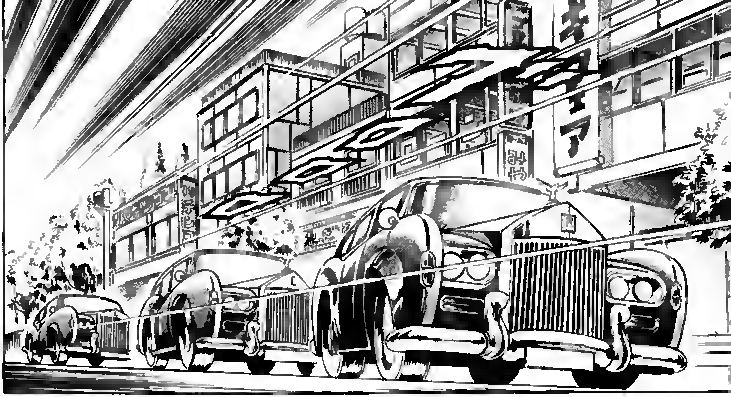
WAIT---!!
YOU DID IT AGAIN, YOU BRAT----!!
.....!!



DO THEY THINK THEY CAN ESCAPE A GANG THEY PUT THEIR TENTACLES OUT INTO ONCE SO EASILY?
REALLY, WHAT'S WITH THESE BRATS THESE DAYS; THEY DON'T EVEN POSSESS THE "G" IN GUTS

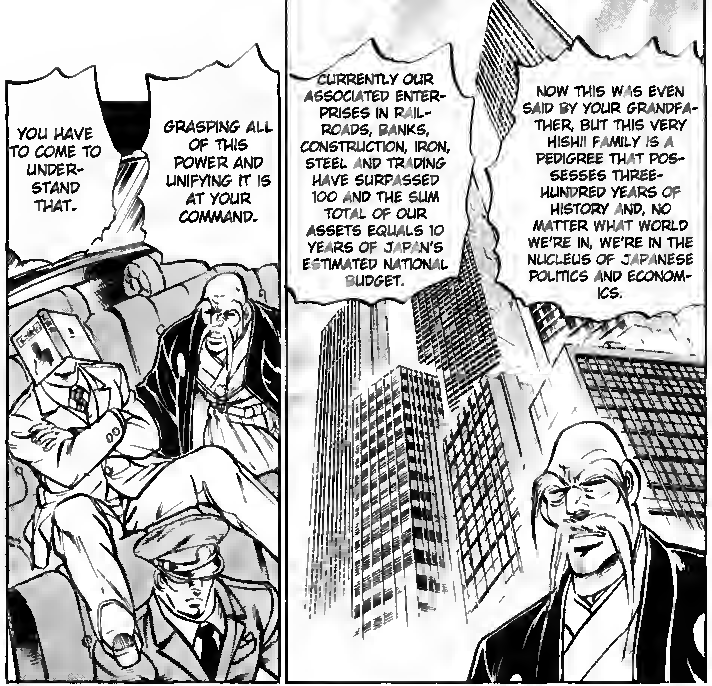
TN: THE "THEY WON'T POSSESS THE 'G' IN GUTS" IS AN ENGLISH INTERPRETATION OF THE JAPANESE VERSION, "KONJOU NO 'KO' NO JI NO ARUZTRAINEE" WHICH IS "THEY WON'T POSSESS THE 'KO' IN KONJOU," THE JAPANESE WORD FOR 'GUTS'


I'LL BE A YOUNG BUSINESSMAN AND BECOME THE RICHEST MAN IN JAPAN!!
I'VE ALREADY QUIT THE YAKUZA
I'VE QUICKLY PREPARED TO MAKE THE SWITCH IN THIS AREA.
ISN'T IT THAT I'M JUST MADE TO GO OUT DAY AFTER DAY FOR THEM, BRINGING THEM MONEY AND WOMEN AS BEING PART OF THE YAKUZA?
HEH, WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?

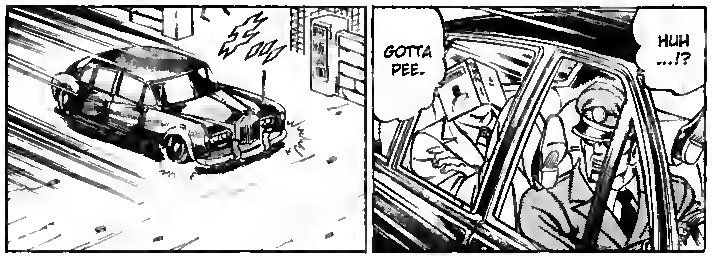


FROM TODAY, YOU WILL BE SUCCEEDING YOUR DEAD FATHER AND BECOMING THE LEADER OF THE NISHII ZAIBATSU.
DID YOU HEAR ME, YOUNG MASTER?

TN: A "ZAIBATSU" IS A JAPANESE TERM FOR "PLUTOCRAT" AND REFERS TO A CONGLOMERATE WHO CONTROLLED MAJOR SECTIONS OF JAPANESE FINANCE AND BUSINESS


YOU HAVE TO COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT.
GRASPING ALL OF THIS POWER AND UNIFYING IT IS AT YOUR COMMAND.
CURRENTLY OUR ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES IN RAILROADS, BANKS, CONSTRUCTION, IRON, STEEL AND TRADING HAVE SURPASSED 100 AND THE SUM TOTAL OF OUR ASSETS EQUALS 10 YEARS OF JAPAN'S ESTIMATED NATIONAL BUDGET.
NOW THIS WAS EVEN SAID BY YOUR GRANDFATHER, BUT THIS VERY HISHI FAMILY IS A PEDIGREE THAT POSSESSES THREE-HUNDRED YEARS OF HISTORY AND, NO MATTER WHAT WORLD WE'RE IN, WE'RE IN THE NUCLEUS OF JAPANESE POLITICS AND ECONOMICS.

STOP.
YOU CAN'T SAY FOOLISH THINGS LIKE YOU WANT TO BECOME YAKUZA AND CAUSE PROBLEMS TO YOUR GRANDFATHER EVER AGAIN!!

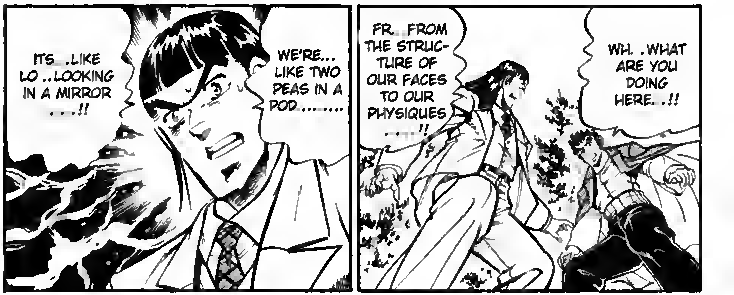

GOTTA PEE.
HUH ...!?

!!
AAH, Y...YOUNG MASTER ----!!
WA...WAIT UP---!!
I...I DON'T LIKE SUCCEEDING MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS AND BEING SET UP AS A DOLL IN SERVANTS CLOTHES----!!
MY LIFE WILL BE OPENED UP BY ME!!
BETTING THEIR THICK, SHORT LIVES AND FALLING AS A FIREWORK OF SKILL AND COURAGE; THAT'S THE LIFE OF A MAN: BEING A SCOUNDREL!!
I WILL BE THE GREATEST SCOUNDREL IN JAPAN---!!

GUE!!
UA!!
WH...WHAT ARE Y...YOU DOING HERE...!!
Y...YOU, WATCH WHERE YOU WERE GOING...!!

WH..WHAT..!?
WH...WHAT...!?
.....!!

Y...YOU'RE.....!?
Y...YOU'RE.....!?


ITS..LIKE LO..LOOKING IN A MIRROR...!!
WE'RE...LIKE TWO PEAS IN A POD.....
FR..FROM THE STRUCTURE OF OUR FACES TO OUR PHYSIQUES.....!!
WH..WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE..!!

I...HAVE TO ASK BUT THAT DABO SHIRT AND LEATHER SANDALS, A...ARE YOU PERHAPS A...A YAKUZA. ....!?
JU...JUST A MOMENT,
BUT WELL IT SEEMS THAT IT'S TRUE.
I'VE HEARD THAT IN THE WORLD, THERE ARE THREE PEOPLE WHO POSSESS THE SAME FACE AS YOURSELF.
AND ALSO THE RICHEST IN JAPAN-----!!
MY AIM IS TO BE A YOUNG BUSINESSMAN.
BUT I'VE ALREADY QUIT. IT DOESN'T MAKE USE OF MY DELICATE PERSONALITY AND ABILITIES.
YEP! YOUNG APPRENTICE OF THE JANPUGUMI, KANTOU SHUEI ALLIANCE. TAKAGI TETSUBEI.
WH...WHAT'S THAT-----!!
WE...WELL, HURRY, TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES TAKE THEM OFF AND SWITCH THEM WITH MY CLOTHING----!!
Y...YOU'RE IN THE YAKUZA AND I'M THE RICHEST IN JAPAN. ....
AH!?

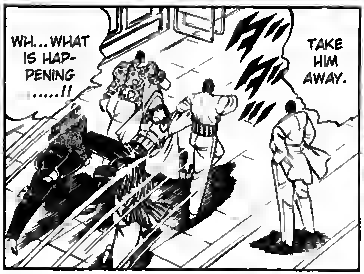
WH...WHY DO THESE THINGS HAVE TO BE WORN BY ME?
HE...HEY, WHY IS THIS GREAT ---!!
.....!!
TH... THIS IS GREAT.

FROM TODAY, YOU'RE HISHII YATAROU, LEADER OF THE HISHII ZAIBATSU; I'LL BE TAKAGI TETSUHEI, YOUNGSTER OF THE JANPU-GUMI . . . . . !!
IT...IT'S GREAT LIKE THIS EVERY-THING IS GOING SMOOTHLY.
AAH, HO...HOLD ON A MOMENT, HE...HEY!!
SEE YA, THE REST WILL GO WELL FOR BOTH OF US----!!
WHAT, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE REASON .....!!

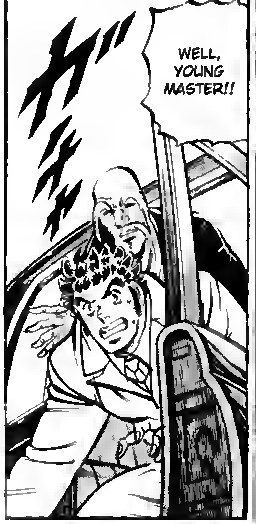
Y..YOUNG MASTER ... .!?
!?
YOUNG MASTER!
WH... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ---!!
TH... THERE---!! Y...YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE!
WH...WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS .....!?
WELL HURRY!! TODAY IS THE DAY OF YOUNG MASTER'S ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME HISHII ZAIBATSU INAUGURATION CEREMONY -----!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU'VE MADE YOURSELF INTO A VULGAR HAIR-STYLE LIKE THAT!!

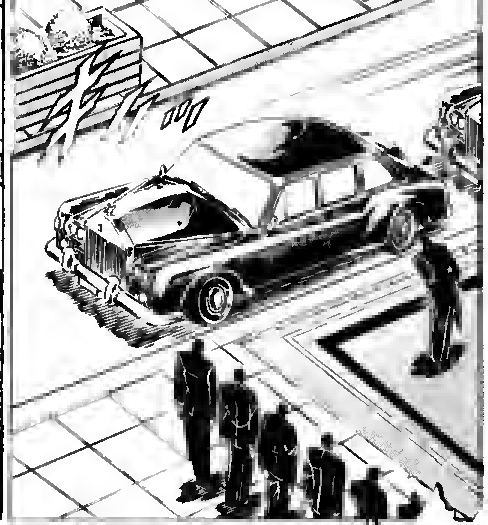
BL...BIG BRO, TH... THAT'S .....!!
JAPAN'S LAST SAMURAI ---!!
WAHHAHAHA, A SCOUNDREL, THE ROMANCE OF A LOST MAN!!
BOOK-
!!
OOH, THAT'S MY ELDERS WITH THEIR SILVER-LAMINATED HARAMAKI'S AND PUNCH PERMS; I CAN PRESUMED FROM APPEARANCE THAT I KNOW THEY'RE IN THE SAME TRADE!!
SHALL WE MAKE CERTAIN, YOU?
THEY'RE DRAWING ME IN---!!

GUGYA!!

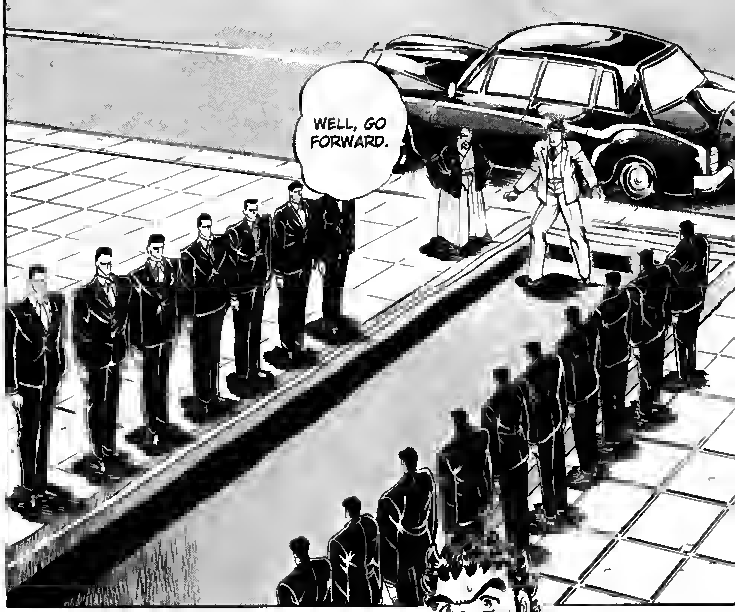

WH...WHAT IS HAP-PENING .....!!
TAKE HIM AWAY.

CHI, DID YOU GO TO THE BARBER? YOUR HEAD IS RIDICU-LOUS!!

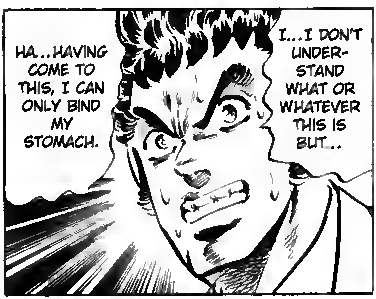

WELL, YOUNG MASTER!!

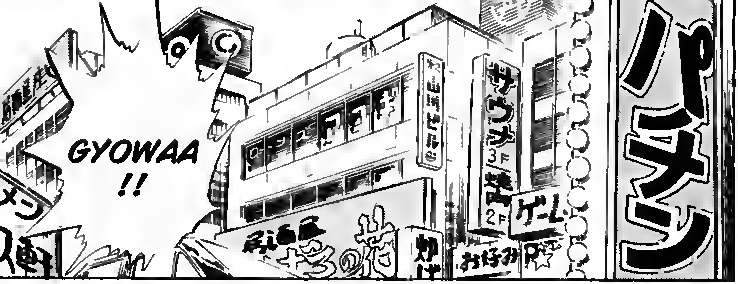


HERE IS THE HEADQUARTER BUILDING FOR THE HISHII ZAIBATSU.
!!

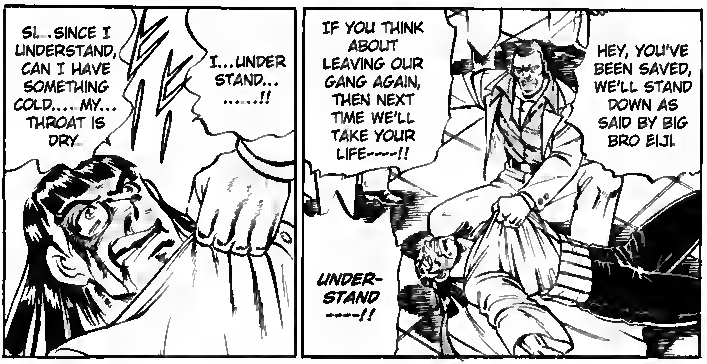

WELL, GO FORWARD.

WEALTH AND INFLUENCE THAT SHOULD BE INFINITE...THERE ISN'T ANYTHING THAT CAN'T BE DONE BY YOU IN JAPAN.
EVERYTHING IS YOURS, YOUNG MASTER. THIS IS YOUR CASTLE AS LEADER OF THE HISHII ZAIBATSU


HA..HAVING COME TO THIS, I CAN ONLY BIND MY STOMACH.
I...I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT OR WHATEVER THIS IS BUT..


GYOWAA !!
パチンコ
ゲーム

雀魅興業
ENOUGH
YES!!


SI...SINCE I UNDERSTAND, CAN I HAVE SOMETHING COLD.... MY... THROAT IS DRY
I...UNDER STAND... .....!!
IF YOU THINK ABOUT LEAVING OUR GANG AGAIN, THEN NEXT TIME WE'LL TAKE YOUR LIFE-----!!
UNDER-STAND -----!!
HEY, YOU'VE BEEN SAVED, WE'LL STAND DOWN AS SAID BY BIG BRO EIJI.

極道
WELL, LET IT PASS
HE'S BEEN THROUGH MANY THINGS AND EVEN HIS HEAD'S BEEN TAKEN DOWN
YOU STILL DON'T SEEM TO UNDER-STAND ANYTHING, YOU BRAT---!!
HIHII !!
HE-RE, SOME-THING COLD.

AMIDST THAT, WE HAD BEEN ASKED BY FATHER TO LOWER A CUP TO HIS SON
WELL, EVEN WITH SCOUNDRELS, YOU HAVE ENDURANCE AMONG THE APPRENTICES. YOU HAVE PROMISE

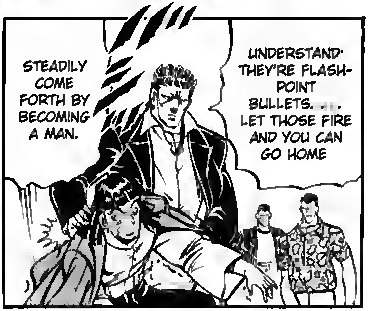
TN: THE "ADJUSTMENT" MADE BY NISHII HERE HAD HIM GO FROM SAYING "BOKU", A MORE FORMAL VERSION OF "I", TO "WASHI", A LESS FORMAL VERSION TYPICALLY USED BY YAKUZA

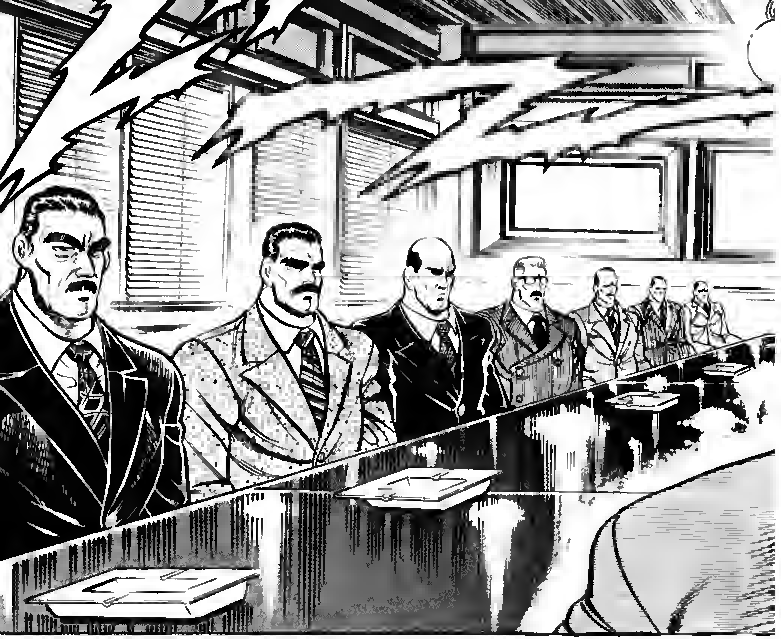
WHAT ARE YOU SURPRISED ABOUT? IT'S A SMITH-AND-WESSON 22 CALIBER.
TH. . THAT'S . . . . .!?
IT'S NOT A MODIFIED GUN, IT'S EVEN GOT SIX BULLETS.

UH!!

OUR PATIENCE OF BEING MOCKED TO THIS POINT IS AT OUR LIMIT. . . . . EVEN FATHER IS FINALLY HARDENING HIS STOMACH AT ALL-OUT WAR.
YESTERDAY, A POOL OF FUERARI-GUMI OF MINAMIGUCHI CAME MAKING AT A PASS AT OUR TERRITORY.

I...I HAVE TO.....!!
GU... GUGU... GUN BULLETS .....!!


STEADILY COME FORTH BY BECOMING A MAN.
UNDERSTAND THEY'RE FLASH-POINT BULLETS. . . . LET THOSE FIRE AND YOU CAN GO HOME



BUT THIS IDIOT VERY SPLENDIDLY SEEMS TO HAVE A BIT OF FUN WITH THIS.
THE FORMER GENERATION GAVE US NOTHING EXCEPT TERROR TO US,
HERE, LOOK AT HIM: HE'S PETRIVIDE WITHOUT EVEN ABLE TO SPEAK SUFFICIENTLY IN PUBLIC.
FUFU, HAS HE BECOME A SECOND-GENERATION IDIOT?
BY ALL MEANS HE'S BEEN INFLUENCED BY SCOUNDRELS SINCE SEEING THAT THAT TOEI YAKUZA MOVIE WHEN HE WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL
REALLY, WHAT IS HE THINKING?

WELL, YOUNG MASTER, SOME WORDS FOR YOUR INAUGURATION AS LEADER...!!
ALL OF THE HEADS OF THE ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES FOR THIS HISHI ZAIBATSU HAVE GATHERED HERE.

KNOCK IT OFF-----!! WHY ARE ALL OF YOU SNEAKILY LETTING THAT OUT-----!
!!
HUH!?
I...I AM TAKAGI TETSU...NO, HISHII YATAROU, THE NEW LEADER OF THE HISHII ZAIBATSU!!

FINE THEN, I'LL SAY JUST ONE THING.
IF I SAY WHITE, THEN EVEN A BLACK CROW WILL BECOME WHITE.
ALL OF YOU ARE MY SUB-ORDINATES AND I AM THE BOSS.
THAT IS ALL.
STEADILY GULP THAT IN YOUR STOMACHS.
THOSE WHO DON'T UNDER-STAND THAT WILL GET THEIR LITTLE FINGER SHRUNKEN AND EXCOMMUNI-CATED.

OPEN YOUR LEGS INTO A 7-3 RATIO AND LOWER YOUR HIPS.
FINE, I'LL SHOW YOU.
YOU IDIOTS---!! WHY AREN'T YOU GIVING A SALUTATION THOUGH YOUR BOSS IS LEAVING---!
THANK YOU VERY MUC---H!!
THANK YOU VERY MUC----H!!

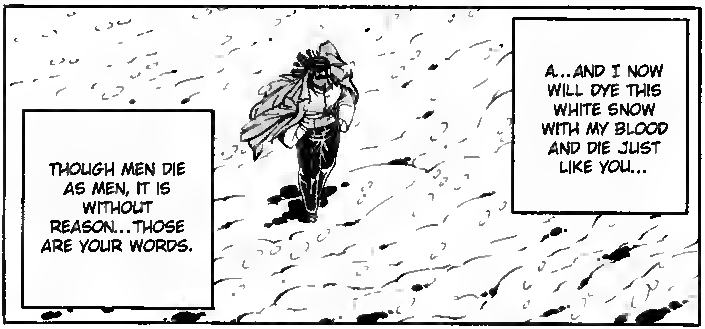
RIGHT, THAT'S FINE.
IT ..IT SEEMS LIKE THE CHANCE HAS FI..FINALLY TURNED TO ME.
KUKKUKU
.....
BAR
居酒屋
ドラッグストア
野村薬局

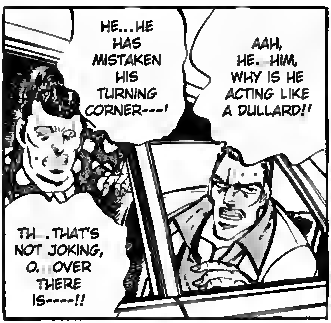
ARE YOU SHAKING NOW?
WHAT'S WRONG!? CAN'T YOU GO QUICKLY?
WR... WRONG!!
WHEN YOU JUMP IN, LET LOOSE UNTIL YOU RUN OUT OF BULLETS
UNDERSTAND: TURN THAT CORNER, AND IN THE 3RD HOUSE IS THE OFFICE OF FUERARI-GUMI. YOU'LL KNOW IMMEDIATELY FROM THE CREST ATTACHED TO THE ENTRANCE SIGN.
!!
WH... WHAT, SNOW...!
I...I MERELY THOUGHT THAT IT SHOULD BE SNOWING... ...
GO QUICKLY !!
WHAT ARE YOU BLAB-BERING ABOUT!!
IN... KEN-SAN'S RAIDING SCENE, THERE IS ALWAYS SNOW FALLING

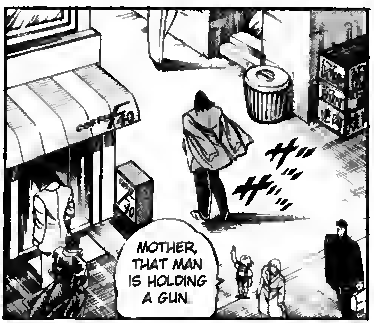
TN: I REALLY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT "KEN" HISHI IS REFERRING TO BUT IT MAY BE REFERRING TO NOTABLE JAPANESE ACTOR AND YAKUZA STAR KEN TAKAKURA, WHO WAS NOTABLE IN WORKING IN MANY OF TOEI'S YAKUZA FILMS AS WELL AS IN SIDNEY POLLOCK'S AMERICAN SLEEPER FILM "THE YAKUZA"

●日本音楽著作権協会(出)許諾第9152085 101号

KEN-SAN..... YOU ARE A MAN AMONG MEN.....


A...AND I NOW WILL DYE THIS WHITE SNOW WITH MY BLOOD AND DIE JUST LIKE YOU...
THOUGH MEN DIE AS MEN, IT IS WITHOUT REASON...THOSE ARE YOUR WORDS.


HE...HE HAS MISTAKEN HIS TURNING CORNER----!
AAH, HE. HIM. WHY IS HE ACTING LIKE A DULLARD!!
TH...THAT'S NOT JOKING, O. OVER THERE IS----!!


MOTHER, THAT MAN IS HOLDING A GUN

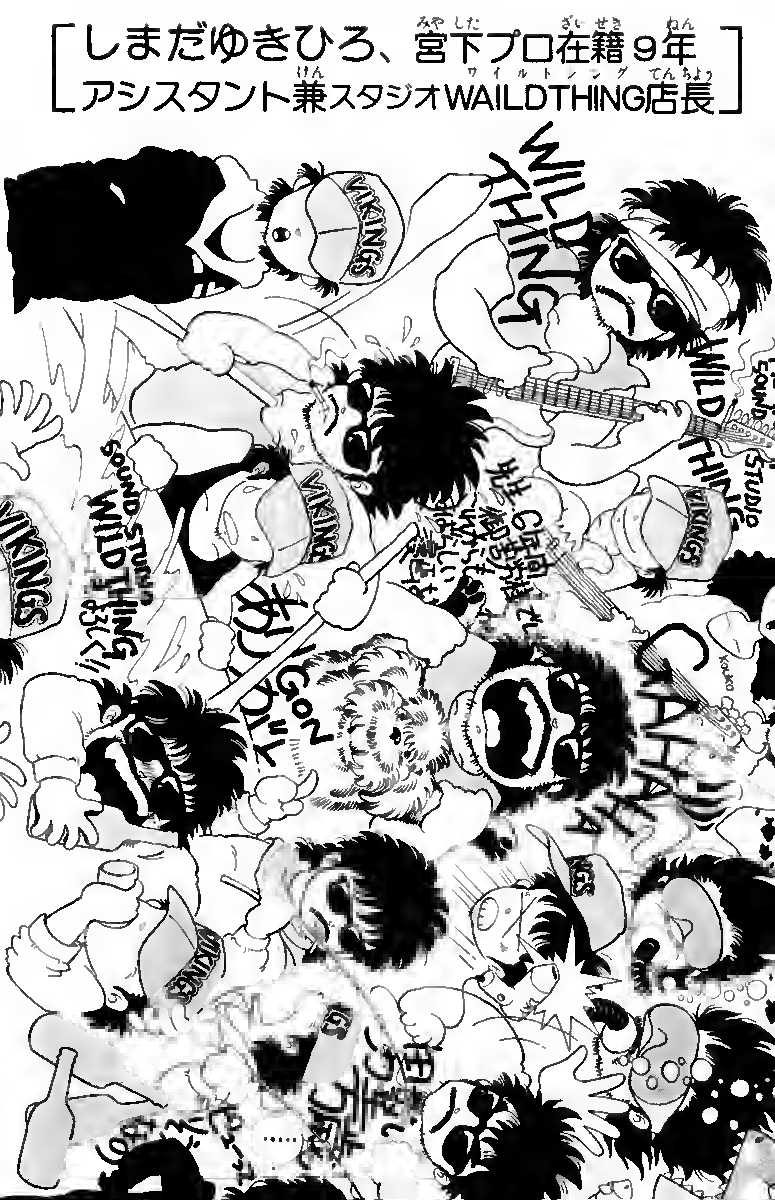
PLEASE WATCH ME, KEN-SAN ...
URY AA --- !!
HERE WE GO --!!

THIS IS THE DUTY OF BUSINESS!!

AAAAH ----!!

AAH----!!
AH!!

TELL THE POLICE CHIEF TO THROW THAT GREAT BORA WIND INTO PRISON!!
YOU FOOLISH OLD MAN---!! CONTINUING TO TAKE THESE FOOLISH THINGS.
PA... PARDON ME, PRESIDENT
社長室
SIGN. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
A MAN WHO HAS TAKEN THE NAME OF THE YOUNG MASTER WHO RAIDED POLICE AND WAS ARRESTED SAID HE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ——!!
WE'VE GOTTEN A CALL FROM THE POLICE NOW
LEAVE THE HISHI ZAIBATSU...NO, THE FUTURE OF JAPAN TO ME!!
WAHHAHAHA, YOUR YOUNG MASTER IS HERE!!
やばいYATSURA(完)


[しまだゆきひろ、宮下プロ在籍9年
アシスタント兼スタジオWAILDTHING店長]
WILD THING
VIKINGS
SOUND STUDIO
GAHAHA
KOUKO
……

読者の皆さん。
長い間、『魁!!男塾』を愛読してくれて
本当にありがとう。
連載六年余月といえば
小学校一年の子が小学校を
卒業する長さだ(当たり前か)。
こんなに長く連載できたのは
みんなの熱烈な応援があったからこそだ。
この作品は俺にとって
思い出深いものとなりました。

みんなも時々は
こんな漫画があったことを
思い出してくれたら幸せです。
次の作品も応援ヨロシク!!
最後に
こんなわがままな俺に最高の力と
なってくれたアシスタント諸君と
編集の方々に感謝致します。

一九九一年 晦日

宮下あきら

TRANSLATION FROM PAGE 204-205:

ALL OF MY READERS:
I TRULY THANK YOU FOR PLEASURABLY READING "SAKIGAKE!! OTOKOJUKU" OVER THIS LONG TIME. WITH THE SERIALIZATION SIX YEARS AND THE REMAINING MONTHS, IT HAD A LENGTH WHERE A CHILD IN FIRST GRADE OF GRADE SCHOOL WOULD HAVE GRADUATED FROM GRADE SCHOOL. (NATURALLY). HAVING A LONG SERIALIZATION LIKE THIS WAS BECAUSE OF THE PASSIONATE SUPPORT OF ALL OF YOU. THIS WORK HAS BECOME ONE OF DEEP MEMORIES FOR ME. I'LL BE HAPPY IF ALL OF YOU OCCASIONALLY REMEMBER THIS MANGA BEST REGARDS IN SUPPORTING MY NEXT WORK!! FINALLY, I GIVE THANKS TO THE GENTLEMEN ASSISTANTS WHO CAME TO GIVE THE ULTIMATE POWER TO MY SELFISH SELF AND THE PEOPLE IN EDITING.

1991, LAST DAY
MIYASHITA AKIRA

■ジャンプ・コミックス

魁!!男塾

34 涙の別れ・卒業式!!の巻

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著者　宮下あきら
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本書の一部あるいは全部を無断で複写複製することは、法律で認められた場合を除き、著作権の侵害となります。
乱丁、落丁本はおとりかえいたします

ISBN4-08-852300-8 C0279

TN:

THIS TALE ISN'T A SPECIAL CHAPTER OF "SAKIGAKE! OTOKOJUKU", EVEN THOUGH IT IS IN THE FINAL VOLUME AND SOME SOURCES CONSIDER THIS THE FINAL CHAPTER. INSTEAD, IT IS A ONE-SHOT WRITTEN BY AKIRA MIYASHITA THAT WAS PUBLISHED IN SUPER JUMP IN 1988, DURING OTOKOJUKU'S RUN. HOWEVER, MIYASHITA DID NOT CHOOSE TO PUBLISH THIS ONE-SHOT UNTIL AFTER THE FINAL OTOKOJUKU CHAPTER, MOSTLY PROBABLY AS A SPACE FILLER. AS SUCH, IT WILL BE PLACED UP WITH THE OTOKOJUKU CHAPTERS SO IT CAN BE PUBLISHED IN THE FINAL VOLUME WITH THE FINAL CHAPTERS AS OPPOSED TO BEING TREATED AS A SPECIAL, SEPARATE ONE-SHOT

WELL IT'S REALLY HARD TO SAY THAT I'VE ACTUALLY RETURNED TO THE REALM OF MIYASHITA AND OTOKOJUKU SINCE IT'S ONLY BEEN A WEEK SINCE I FINISHED TRANSLATING THE SERIES. HECK, AS MENTIONED PRIOR, THIS ONE-SHOT CAME OUT IN 1988 (TO GIVE IT PERSPECTIVE. THE CHAPTER WAS RELEASED ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS THE RYOUZANPAKU FIGHT IN OTOKOJUKU, ABOUT THE POINT OF GEKKOU/SOUKETSU) AND MIYASHITA STILL HAD A FEW YEARS OF HIS SERIES LEFT. BUT IT IS ALWAYS NICE TO GET A DIFFERENT AND ENLIGHTENING PERSPECTIVE OF STORYTELLING THAT A MANGAKA CAN DO OUTSIDE THEIR ELEMENT AND ..WHILE PROBABLY NOT GOING TO LIGHT UP ANYTHING, YABAI YATSURA IS A NICE LITTLE BOOK-END TO OUR OTOKOJUKU JOURNEY AS A NICE ADDED BONUS.

I THINK PROBABLY THE BIGGEST STRENGTH TO WHY THE ONE-SHOT WORKS IS MOSTLY IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE TWO LEADS. HISHII AND TAKAGI (WHO REALLY DON'T LOOK ALIKE . THOUGH AT SOME POINTS I SWEAR TAKAGI IS NOTHING MORE THAN A CLEAN-SHAVING TORAMARU WITH A FEW MORE YEARS ON HIM . THOUGH THAT'S NOT THE GREATEST SIMILARITY I'VE SEEN IN THE STORY) TAKAGI IS A WILD CHILD WHO WANTED OUT OF THE MAFIA MOSTLY BECAUSE HE IS A SCHEMER BUT REALLY NOT TOO GOOD IN THE HANDS-ON DUTIES OR JUST MERELY SICK OF HIS LOW POSITION. HE KNOWS HE HAS WHAT IT TAKES TO GO HIGHER BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY ENEMIES AND OTHER AGENTS AHEAD OF HIM IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS, THUS WHY HE RATHER GET INTO BUSINESS. ON THE OTHER HAND, HISHII IS A TYPICAL BORED RICH BOY WHO RATHER DO WHAT IS DONE IN THE MOVIES THAN HANDLE THE PLUSH LIFE OF BEING THE LEADER OF ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL COMPANIES IN THE WORLD (HEH, AND THIS WAS AROUND THE POINT OF A TOURNAMENT SPONSORED BY TOUDOU.. MIYASHITA REALLY LIKES SHOWING OFF SUPER-POWERFUL CORPORATIONS ALONGSIDE THE BAD BOYS) OF COURSE, IT IS THESE TRAITS THAT THEY SHOW AT THE START THAT END UP PUSHING BOTH OF THEM THROUGH THE STORY AND ULTIMATELY LEAD TO THE CONCLUSION THAT WE SEE.

TAKAGI DOES KNOW HOW TO HANDLE THINGS IN THE "MOB WAY", BUT NEVER GOT HIS CHANCE UNTIL HE BECAME HISHII AND TOOK OVER THE COMPANY BY SHOWING OTHERS WHOSE BOSS. ON THE OTHER HAND, HISHII WAS TOO DRIVEN BY HIS DREAMS OF BEING THE NEXT KEN TAKAKURA JUST LIKE IN THE MOVIES AND ENDS UP BOTH BEATEN TO A PULP, HANDLING THINGS HE CAN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND .AND ULTIMATELY ARRESTED. HISHII WAS TOO COMFY IN THINKING OF HOW A MOBSTER SHOULD BE THAT HE CRACKED UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WHILE TAKAGI USED HIS YAKUZA LIFE TO LITERALLY SHOW BOARDROOMS WHOSE BOSS. AND THAT'S WHERE THE COMEDY OF THE WHOLE STORY COMES FROM, IN SEEING HOW BOTH SIDES DO AND SEEING HOW THEIR FORMER LIVES END UP DETERMINING WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY SWITCH. OH .. AND AS FOR THE OTHER "COINCIDENCE". IS IT JUST ME OR DID THE LOCAL LEADER OF JANPU-GUMI LOOK LIKE AN ACTUAL CLONE OF EIKE!? (CONSIDERING THAT HE WAS JUST ABOUT TO RETURN AS "SHOUKAKU" FROM WHAT I SAID EARLIER ABOUT THE RYOUZANPAKU ARC, MAYBE MIYASHITA WANTED TO START PRACTICING HIM AGAIN SINCE HE HAD TO START USING HIM SOON ->WITHOUT REALLY SHOWING HIS FACE<- SO HE GAVE EIKE! THE CAMEO AS EIJI.. HECK, YOU EVEN JUST CHANGE THE "J" TO A "K" AND YOU'RE EVEN CLOSER TO EIKE!!)

JC852300

魁!!男塾

さきがけ

34

宮下あきら

★300

集英社

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★各巻とも好評発売中!!